



Delta Youth Football League, Inc. Articles of Incorporation & Bylaws

2019



In partnership with the



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MISSION STATEMENT OF DELTA YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

The essence of the Delta Youth Football League, hereinafter referred to all as Delta, is a physical fitness program in an atmosphere conducive to the development of mind and character. Our primary goal is to prepare the participants involved for the high school football / cheerleading experience.

Delta presents to each adult affiliated a unique opportunity to share in the molding of its youth. Adults Affiliated with Delta teach that hard work develops respect for discipline. Self-discipline, properly taught by a Delta certified coach, is a major factor in turning a youth's life from self-indulgence to meaningful self-respect, respect for the rights of others, and respect for the law. America's future lies in her youth. The lessons of life, so readily adaptable from a Delta experience can complement the work of the home, church and school in molding young people.

In Delta, discipline teaches participants that it isn't weak; to refrain from smoking, to get good grades, to eat a proper diet, to practice good sportsmanship and to keep themselves physically fit. All of this takes place in the context of a Delta program. Delta enables a youth to develop a sense of pride in themselves and their community. Competent coaching, adequate equipment and medical precautions are combined to establish a sound youth football program. Delta emphasizes the achievement of good school grades. A victory recorded of a game score is a short-term accomplishment and soon forgotten. Lessons contributing to character development learned on the gridiron can serve as valuable guidelines for life.

The Delta adult fulfills his/her role best when he/she realizes that his/her job is to train participants for the high school teacher and coach. Building the right foundation is half the battle in the making of a good football player. Participants who can block and tackle, who have the proper attitude, who are willing to work hard scholastically and physically are the ideal graduates from Delta. Adults are required to concentrate their primary efforts on preparing participants by instilling in them the desire to work hard in the classroom and on the football field. Many parents find it difficult to adjust to the changing relationships they encounter with their children entering early adolescence. Delta adults can help by pointing out to parents the importance of youth succeeding with their peers. The major responsibility of parents is to help their early contemporaries, such as the local Delta league. Parents can play a big role by supporting their youngsters in their efforts to contribute to their team.

All Conferences, Franchises, Divisions, Associations, Sponsors, Booster Clubs, and adults affiliated with Delta must embrace the Delta tenets and philosophy as set forth above.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENT:

I, Derrick Martin , the duly elected Secretary of the Delta Youth Football League, Inc. (a California Corporation) do hereby certify that the within and foregoing By-laws were adopted as the Bylaws of this Corporation on the first day of January, 1985 and that the same do now constitute the Bylaws of this Corporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: I have hereunto subscribed by name and shall affix the seal of Said Corporation this first day of January, 1985 (revised...March 25, 2017)

Derrick Martin - Secretary, Delta Youth Football League, Inc., March 25, 2017

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF DELTA YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

- I. The name of this corporation is DELTA YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE.
- II. This corporation is a nonprofit public benefit corporation and is not organized for the private gain of any person. It is organized under the nonprofit public benefit corporation law for charitable purposes.
 - A. The specific purpose of this corporation is to teach youth the fundamentals of football and requisites of good sportsmanship and scholarship.
- III. The name and address in the State of California of this corporation's initial agent for service of process is:
Bruce Cosby
PO Box 5096
Stockton, CA 95205
- IV. This Corporation is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501 [C] [3] of the Internal Revenue code.
 - A. No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign (including the publishing or distribution of statements) on behalf of any candidate for public office.
- V. The property of this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes and no part of the net income or assets of this corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer or member thereof or to the benefit of any private person. Upon the dissolution or winding up of the corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation, or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes and which has established its tax exempt status under section 501 [C] [3] of the Internal Revenue Code.

Dated: March 25,2019

Bruce Cosby

SECTION 1

BYLAWS OF DELTA YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE, INCORPORATED

We, together constituting and being all the members and directors and incorporates of the DELTA YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE, INC., a nonprofit and charitable corporation, without capital stock and not conducted for profit do hereby adopt the following code of Bylaws for said corporation.

ARTICLE I - PURPOSE

The purpose of the DELTA YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE shall be to teach youth the fundamentals of football / cheerleading and the essentials of good sportsmanship and scholarship.

ARTICLE II - CORPORATE SEAL

The corporate seal shall be a triangle with a football player represented in the center, surrounded by a circle within its circumference the words "DELTA YOUTH FOOTBALL"

ARTICLE III - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- A. The Board of Directors will consist of fourteen (14) Executive Directors, fifteen (15) with an optional "Member at Large", and all Franchise Presidents. Each having one vote, on all matters, at all Board meetings.
- B. The Executive Directors shall consist of the Commissioner, North Vice President, South Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, North Weighmaster, South Weighmaster, North Cheer Coordinator, South Cheer Coordinator, Public Relations Officer, Ways & Means Officer, Referee Liaison/Officials Representative, Equipment Coordinator, League Operations Officer and Member At Large (optional). The Commissioner will be a non-voting member.
- C. The Executive Directors shall be elected at the January meeting, and shall serve for one (1) year until their successors are elected at January meeting. Each Executive Director may hold (1) one position during any (1) one calendar year. The Executive Directors shall appoint vacancies. The appointed member shall hold office until his/her successor is elected.
- D. The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by the Executive Directors.
- E. Any Executive Director that misses three (3) regular meetings in any one (1) calendar year without communicating with a League Vice President or Secretary will be removed from the board and replaced by an individual selected by the Commissioner.
- F. A simple majority of Executive Directors shall constitute a quorum at any Executive Directors meeting.
- G. Executive Directors shall have summary power to remove any member, when determined by majority vote that infractions of the Delta Youth Football League Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws have been made.
- H. The Executive Directors may appoint one person as a "Member at Large" each year in the February meeting to serve a one-year term on the Executive Board.
- I. If any officers on the Board of Directors of Delta are elected to more than one position on said Board of Directors, their voting strength shall remain as one (1). No Delta Board member shall be entitled to more than one (1) vote, regardless of the number of positions said member has been elected to serve in.
- J. Franchises may hold as many positions as elected on the Executive Board, but will be limited to a maximum of three votes.
- K. Voting privileges are transferable with prior written notification to the Delta Secretary. In the event, occurrence or absence of a Board Member, that member may, by proxy or prior written notice to the Delta Secretary, assign his/her vote by and through an agent of their selection for the meeting that the absence occurs. The intent of this clause is to assure that each Franchise will be provided a vote at each meeting.
- L. A simple majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any Board meeting.
- M. The number of the members of the Board of Directors shall automatically increase or decrease as new franchises join and existing franchises leave. There will be no further need to amend this Article or reflect changes in number as long as the basic rule of a simple majority to establish a quorum is observed.
- N. No member of the Board of Directors of this corporation shall receive any compensation for their work.

ARTICLE IV - DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES of the BOARD of DIRECTORS

- A. Commissioner

1. A minimum of one year of experience as a DYFL Executive Director will be required prior to being elected Commissioner.
2. The Commissioner will be elected each year; he/she shall preside over all meetings of the Executive Board, Board of Directors and membership. He/she shall, in general, supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the Corporation.
3. The Commissioner shall be the Chief Executive Officer and prime spokesperson for DELTA. It shall be his/her responsibility to provide the direction and administration of DELTA'S policies and the operation of its programs.
4. The Commissioner cannot serve as head coach, assistant coach, manager, officer or director of a Franchise without prior approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Directors.
5. Verify that annual Federal and State tax returns are filed timely or an extension is filed before deadline.

B. Conference Vice-Presidents

1. A minimum of one year of experience as a DYFL Executive Director will be required prior to being elected as a Conference Vice President.
2. A Vice President representing the North and South will be elected each year. He/she shall act as the Commissioner in his/her absence or his/her inability to act. They shall assist the Commissioner in his/her duties.
3. The Vice Presidents will have the power of the Commissioner in his/her respective conference in reacting to emergency situations requiring immediate decisions. They must confer with the Commissioner concerning the decision as soon as possible.
4. League scheduling shall be assigned to the Vice Presidents; they shall hold a special scheduling meeting in March each year.

C. Treasurer

1. The Treasurer will be elected each year. He/she shall have custody of all funds and securities of the corporation. He/she shall keep such funds in a bank designated by the Executive Directors. He/she shall present, upon demand of the Commissioner, a complete report of the financial status of the Corporation.
2. A written copy of the financial status (including Bank Statements) of the Corporation will be issued to each Franchise at the monthly Board meetings. Reports will show starting balance, all transactions for the past month and ending balance. Funds shall be paid out only on the check of the Corporation signed by two of the following officers: Commissioner, Vice Presidents, Secretary or Treasurer.
3. Any and all moneys collected by the treasurer, or any other member of the board, must be done so with the issuance of a receipt. The receipt must detail the amount collected, source of payment, date of payment etc., and must be signed by the person that collected the moneys and issued the receipt. A copy of each receipt shall be kept in the files of the Treasurer.
Reports to the Registrant of Charitable Trusts, Attorney General's Office, State of California, shall be assigned to the Treasurer.
4. Upon request of an audit, a finance committee consisting of the Treasurer and a minimum of two (2) North and two (2) South Franchise Presidents, appointed by the Commissioner, will be formed to perform the requested audit.
5. Treasurer shall be responsible for all insurance matters at League level.
6. Treasurer shall complete or cause to be completed, in a manner acceptable to DYFL Executive Board, annual Federal and State tax returns of Delta Youth Football League, Inc.

D. Secretary

1. The Secretary will be elected each year, he/she shall be responsible for the preparation and permanent record of the minutes of all meetings of DELTA, and the timely distribution of one copy of each to every member of the Board. He/she shall be the custodian of all league records and/or the seal of the Corporation.
2. Printing, assembling, purchasing, and/or distributing the constitution, Bylaws, playing rules, memoranda, and/or periodic bulletins shall be assigned to the Secretary.
3. In the event of the inability of the Commissioner to continue as Commissioner, the secretary will call a special meeting of Delta. The purpose of the special meeting shall be to elect a successor to the office of Commissioner and conduct any business deemed necessary. The agenda set forth in Section 1, Article V, paragraph F, thereof, and will govern such a special meeting.

E. Weigh Masters

1. A Weigh Master representing the North and South will be elected each year, he/she shall confirm all weights.

2. The Weigh Masters must, at the direction of the Commissioner, investigate any alleged infractions of the rules of DELTA pertaining to weight. They may direct the Vice Presidents to aid them in investigations within the Conference they represent.
 3. Player eligibility, if challenged, shall be investigated by a Conference Weigh Master.
- F. Cheer Coordinators
1. A Cheer Coordinator representing the North and South will be elected each year, he/she shall be responsible to the matters pertaining to the duties of coordinating cheerleading within their conference.
 2. He/she shall provide assistance to any franchise that requires help in the areas of cheerleading.
- G. Public Relations Officer
1. A Public Relations Officer representing DELTA will be elected each year; he/she shall be responsible for all releases to the news media of all DYFL functions.
 2. He/she shall be responsible for the publicity arrangements of all non-league games such as exhibitions; with direction and approval of the Executive Directors.
 3. He/she shall be responsible for the collecting and publishing all scores and standings of all pre-season, regular season, and play-off games.
- H. Ways & Means Officer
1. A Ways & Means Officer representing DELTA will be elected each year, he/she shall be responsible for the logistical requirements of the league, (i.e. procuring facilities for meetings or clinics, all matters pertaining to the methods and resources of raising revenues as required by the league) and assist the conference vice presidents as needed.
 2. The Ways & Means Officer will work together in obtaining bids, financial authorization and purchasing on approval of Post-Season awards, excluding All-stars.
- I. Referee Liaison / Officials Representative
1. The Officials Representative is the spokesperson between the Board of Directors, the Referee Liaison and the game day officials.
 2. He/she is responsible to see that officials are scheduled for all games and that they are aware of all game sites and times. He/she will also ensure that the officials are kept current about any changes. He/she will act as the Board of Directors agent in order to establish a closer relationship with the referees and will see that all officials be furnished a copy of the DYFL Bylaws.
 3. He/she will be a full voting member of the Executive Directors.
 4. He/she shall be responsible for processing complaints, incidents, and evaluations of game day officials.
- J. Safety Coordinator
1. The Safety Coordinator will be elected each year; he/she shall be responsible for scheduling and conducting all clinics concerning the correct fitting of authorized football equipment league wide.
 2. He/she will ensure that all teams affiliated with Delta have at least one certified Personal Safety Coordinator (PSC).
 3. Safety Coordinator will coordinate and conduct safety related sessions at the annual coach's clinic.
 4. He/she can provide assistance to any franchise that requires help procuring and/or fitting equipment.
 5. He/she will act as the Board of Directors agent when the league must interact with any and all vendors.
- K. Franchise Presidents
1. Franchise Presidents are solely responsible for the prompt dissemination of all memos, circulars, letters, Bylaws, rules and regulation, amendments, alterations, financial statements, budgets, minutes, and information from Delta. These are intended for distribution within the league to the franchises, sponsors, booster clubs, press (printed, audio and video), parents and other properly interested individuals. The board may direct communication of any nature to any Conference and/or Franchise.
 2. Financial statements of all franchises shall be made available to Delta upon a request by the Executive Directors, to include all statements of receipts and disbursements of the self-supporting franchise for the current and preceding calendar year. Franchises that fail to comply shall be denied the privilege of voting power at any/all Delta meetings until such reports have been received by the Treasurer.
 3. Annually, no later than the March Executive Board meeting, all Presidents are required to submit a current copy of their bylaws as amended for the forthcoming year to the DYFL Secretary. Such bylaws will include formal direction as to the nomination and election process and/or the appointment of Officers.
 4. Franchise presidents will ensure that their franchise is registered with the State of California as a non-profit, charitable organization.

5. Franchise Presidents are responsible for communicating the locations of all practice and game sites with the League Treasurer to meet insurance requirements.
 - a. Should a practice or game site change for any reason, during any the pre, regular or post season the League Treasurer must be notified *prior* to the site change to meet insurance requirements.
6. Prior to attending a DYFL Clinic, Franchise Presidents are required to submit the names of all individuals attending said clinic to a personal background record check by local police authority (minimum Megan's Law).
 - a. Any individual who has been convicted of any felony, any crime involving children, any crime involving theft / embezzlement or any sex offense shall be ineligible to serve.
 1. Any exceptions must be appealed to the Executive Directors in writing prior to being issued a Delta card/badge.
 2. Based upon the circumstances of the offense itself, the Executive Directors may allow said person to serve a Franchise in a specific duty.
7. It is the responsibility of the Franchise President to ensure all Head and Assistant Coaches are First Aid and CPR certified. If any Franchise is found to have a non-First Aid and CPR certified coach participating in any practice or game, that Franchise, will be fined \$500.00 and face suspension of the Head Coach and Franchise President. Junior Coaches are only required to be First Aid certified.
8. Franchise Presidents are responsible for calling in the scores of the Novice, J.V. and Varsity games to their Conference Public Relations Officer no later than Sunday evening following their games. Failure to do so the first time will result in a \$50.00 fine and a \$100.00 fine for each succeeding failure to report their scores.
9. Presidents are fully and directly responsible for the conduct of their players, staff members, parents and spectators while at, or participating in any Delta function. This includes, but is not limited to practices, weigh-ins, warm-ups, during and after games, while at the stadium, dinners, fundraisers, and any/all functions where Delta is represented or participating. This will include the weigh-in area, warm-up area, playing field, bench area, parking lot, bleachers, concession area, practice field, etc. All of the aforementioned must accept all the decisions of all game officials.
 - a. Franchise presidents may be held responsible for the actions of their parents and fans.
10. At the request of the Head Coach, the Franchise President may request a parent/guardian to remove his/her child from the franchise.
11. Because Jr. Coaches are under the age of 18, Presidents are responsible to have a Medical Consent Form, signed by his/her parent/guardian, for each Jr. Coach in case he/she should require medical attention. This consent must be available at all times to include; practice sessions, games and franchise events.
12. Any coach that is ejected from a game must immediately leave the stadium / facility for the remainder of the game day.
 - a. He/she is suspended from his/her coaching duties for the next (2) two weeks. This includes practice and games.
 - b. It is the responsibility of the franchise president to inform the League Secretary AND Franchise Presidents of the next (2) upcoming scheduled games by e-mail or written communication of the ejection. (Detail his/her first name, last name, position and division.)

L. League Operations Officer

1. League Operation Officer will be responsible to review all background checks of DYFL Certified Personnel.
2. League Operations Officer will make sure everyone is in compliant with DYFL bylaws.
3. League Operation Officer will be responsible for issuing and collecting all Delta Certified Personnel badges.
4. Verifies/confirms completion of USA FOOTBALL certifications.

M. All members of the Board of Directors must be ever alert to the welfare of the participants and the proper administration of Delta in accordance with the Bylaws. On occasion, the management of the affairs of Delta will require one or more of the Executive Directors to make spur-of-the-moment decisions, which can affect all or any part of the entire Delta organization and program. All such decisions must be made in light of what is best for the greatest part of Delta. The Executive Directors shall review any such decision no later than the next scheduled meeting following the event. In the event that an agent is appointed by one of the aforementioned officers, that agent is circumscribed to Executive Directors only.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

- A. Board of Directors shall meet at least once monthly on the first Wednesday of each month, at a place designated by the Commissioner.
- B. The annual meeting (January) shall be to elect the new Executive Directors and present to the membership the annual report of the past season. Said report shall include a complete financial report.
- C. Special meetings may be called by the Commissioner or at the request of five (5) members.
- D. Any Franchise that is not represented at the January, February and March meetings by their Franchise President or his/her duly appointed proxy, shall forfeit their franchises right to host its next scheduled pre or post season game and/or jamboree.
- E. The order of business at the Annual and regular monthly meetings of Delta shall be:
 - 1. Call to order
 - 2. Roll call of members
 - 3. Approval of voting strength
 - 4. Approval of minutes of preceding meeting
 - 5. Fiscal report, treasurer's report
 - 6. Commissioner's report
 - 7. Establishment of membership fees (January meeting only)
 - 8. Establishment of referee affiliation fees
 - 9. Establishment of insurance requirements (June meeting)
 - 10. Application for membership
 - 11. Officer's reports
 - 12. Fines to be levied and/or expulsions from membership
 - 13. Proposals to amend constitution or by-laws
 - 14. Old business
 - 15. Election of Officers (January meeting only)
 - 16. New business
 - 17. For the good of Delta
 - 18. Adjournment

ARTICLE VI AMENDING of BYLAWS

- A. Any proposed changes to the Age & Weight components must be submitted to the Commissioner at least four (4) weeks prior to the annual (January) meeting. If adopted at the annual (January) meeting these changes shall have priority over all other amendments to the Bylaws. A 2/3 (two-thirds) vote is required to amend the Articles and/or Bylaws of Delta Youth Football.
- B. Any proposed changes to the Articles of Incorporation and/or Bylaws and Addendum thereto must be presented to the Commissioner, by a member of the Board of Directors, at least four (4) weeks prior to the March meeting. If adopted at the March meeting these changes shall have priority over all other amendments to the Bylaws.
 - 1. A 2/3 (two-thirds) vote is required to amend the Articles and/or Bylaws of Delta Youth Football.
- C. No amendment or alteration can ever change the purpose of this corporation or devote its funds to purposes other than the charitable, educational and non-profit objectives thereto.
- D. Under emergency situations, Bylaws may be amended anytime, to resolve the specific emergency, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a majority of the Board of Directors present at a special or regular monthly meeting.

ARTICLE VII BOOKS, RECORDS AND PROPERTY

- A. No member shall acquire any right, title or interest in the property or moneys of the Corporation.
- B. All property and moneys, whether acquired by purchase, donations, contributions or otherwise, can ever be divided among individual members. Property and moneys maybe loaned to or equally divided between member Franchises. Any loan or disbursement of property or moneys to member Franchises will require a 2/3 vote of the Executive Directors.
 - 1. DYFL shall not loan any funds that would amount to 10% or greater than the net balance of the DYFL general account balance.

2. All requests for a DYFL loan shall be presented at any monthly DYFL meeting, with a loan application from DYFL. All loan approvals will be determined by the Executive Board of Directors. All loans are subject to terms, conditions and requirement set forth by the Executive Board of Directors. Any late payments will be subject to late fees. (Examples: Terms, payment plan, late fees, all equipment will be used as collateral. Conditions: the franchise will continue to be with DYFL until loan is paid off. Current President shall be responsible for the payments: any change in Presidencies, the loan will be due immediately by the franchise or new terms will be set. Requirements: Treasurer Reports from the franchise is due to DYFL every month.)
- C. All property and moneys of the corporation must be and are devoted irrevocable to the charitable, educational and the purposes for which this corporation is and was incorporated.
- D. All books, records and property of the Corporation shall remain under the care and custody of the Executive Directors, whose duties are concerned therewith, all under supervision of the Commissioner.

SECTION 2

ARTICLE VIII - LEAGUE AFFILIATION

- A. Franchises are expressly prohibited from joining with any other youth football organization that serves purposes similar or identical to Delta.

ARTICLE IX - CONFERENCES / FRANCHISES

A. Conferences

1. As of this printing of these Bylaws, Delta recognizes the existence of the following Conferences with the membership: NORTH...SOUTH
2. The creation of a Conference by way of combination requires a two-third (2/3) vote in the regular February meeting.
3. The transfer of a Franchise from one Conference to another requires a two-third (2/3) vote in a regular February meeting and becomes effective upon the approval of the transfer. To balance a Conference, a Franchise may be moved by a two-third (2/3) vote of the Executive Directors.

B. Franchises / Teams (Divisions)

1. Franchises and their affiliates shall not adopt Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, rules and regulations, conduct their business or otherwise act in a manner or for aims and purposes that are in conflict with the Article of Incorporation and Bylaws of Delta.
2. All Franchises will be registered with the state as a non-profit, charitable organization as stated in Section 1, Article IV, paragraph K (3).
3. A Franchise must recruit its players from within its prescribed boundaries as established by its League and or Conference.
 - a. Franchises are prohibited from recruiting players from school teams.
4. A team shall have not less than twenty (20) or more than forty-five (45) players certified to its roster.
5. Taxi or reserve squads are expressly prohibited.
6. A team must have twenty (20) or more players eligible, suited and ready to play at kick-off or forfeit the game.
 - a. If a franchise knows in advance that it will not have the required twenty (20) players they can be authorized to play with as few as 15 players. During the game if a team drops below 15 eligible players for any reason the game is a forfeit. The Franchise President must contact their Conference Vice President at least 24 hours before game time to get approval.
 - b. In an emergency, on a game day, if a team/division falls below the required twenty (20) players, the Franchise President may call their Conference Vice President for approval to play on that day. If the team drops below 15 eligible players for any reason the game is a forfeit.
7. Any Franchise that fails to send a representative to assist the League at any pre/post season event at the direction of the DYFL Executive Directors, shall forfeit its right to host its next scheduled pre/post season game or jamboree.
 - a. The League Secretary will insure that all franchises are notified (at least 10 working days in advance) when they are to assist the League.

8. Franchises face fines, probation, suspension and/or removal from the League for violating DYFL Bylaws or for conducting their franchise in a manner that does not reflect the best interest of Delta.
9. If any franchise is found to have non first aid/CPR certified coaches on the field, that franchise, will be fined \$500 and face suspension of the head coach and franchise president.

C. Minimum Requirements for New Franchises and ongoing participation

1. In the interest of maintaining and developing strong franchises in Delta Youth Football League (DYFL), minimum sign-up requirements for the admission of new franchises, as well as, developing ongoing participation requirements for franchises that have not fielded teams at all competitive levels during the immediately preceding season, or franchises that were required to forfeit one or more games during the previous season at any level due to lack of a sufficient number of players on game day.
2. Franchises that fail to field a team at any level or have forfeited one or more games at any level due to an insufficient number of eligible players on game day will be placed on probation for the following year. Franchises placed on probation will be required to meet the same minimum sign-up requirements established for a new franchise. Failure to meet sign-up requirements for two (2) consecutive years will result in franchise being placed on probation and considered not in good standing.
After two consecutive years of non-compliance and presentation of letter of intent, this Franchise will be reviewed by the board to determine if this said Franchise shall be permitted to continue to participation in the DYFL.
3. Number of Participants - Total number of sign-ups must be reported to the league secretary no later than the first Monday of each month. In the event that sign-ups are not at the level required for each month, a brief statement regarding current activities that are occurring to improve and meet the numbers must accompany the report. Failure to report numbers by the required deadline will result in franchise being placed on probation.
4. Minimum Sign-Up Requirements

Month	Football Players – per level	Cheerleaders – per level
February	5	2
March	10	4
April	10	5

- a) Teams are also required to have 25 football players on their Jr Novice and Novice rosters by June 30th.
 - b) The numbers above represent minimum requirements. Maximum roster size for football is 45.
 - c) Flexibility may be granted by the DYFL Board for Varsity level sign-ups
 - d) In addition to the minimum sign-up requirements, new franchises to DYFL must demonstrate sufficient funding and a commitment from an organization that will provide game and practice facilities as outlined below.
5. Funding-Teams participating with DYFL for the first time must be able to present proof of an adequate source of funding. Proof of available funding should be presented in the form of bank statements showing sufficient balance to fund equipment or a letter of support from a funding source willing to purchase equipment on their behalf.
 6. Commitment - Playing youth football requires an organization to establish and maintain relationships with organizations that will provide playing and practice facilities. School Districts, Municipalities, Churches, and private organizations support our teams and provide a wide array of facilities at which programs operate. New teams should be able to present proof of a commitment from such an organization indicating their commitment to your organization and their willingness to provide such facilities.

7. Additional Requirements

- a. In addition to an adequate funding source, organization applying for DYFL membership must also submit the following information.
- b. Bylaws for the organization
- c. List of current governing board and meeting times and locations

- d. A determination letter showing organization status from the IRS and Franchise Tax Board. If not received, proof that an application for non-profit status has been submitted.

ARTICLE X - DELTA CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

- A. In Delta, there are various categories of certified personnel; Presidents, Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Junior Coaches, Weigh Masters, Equipment Managers.
 1. Each of these positions has its own requirements to receive a Delta Youth Football League card/badge as prescribed in this article.
 2. All must be of unquestionable moral character and shall serve on a non-compensated basis.
- B. Prior to receiving a Delta card/badge all President, Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Junior Coaches, Weighmasters, Equipment Managers must attend a Delta Youth Football League Clinic in that calendar year that may include, but shall not be limited to information and instruction concerning:
 1. Conditioning
 2. Fitting of Equipment
 3. Proper Weigh-Ins
 4. Playing Rules
 5. Officials
 6. Dealing with boys/girls of this age group
 7. DYFL bylaws
- C. The date of this clinic will be set each year by the Executive Board. There will be a minimum of two (2) Delta clinics, ran by DYFL personnel who do not get certified at one of the two clinics will be charged an additional \$25 fee.
- D. At the Delta Coaches Clinic all potential Delta certified personnel will be required to complete and sign a DYFL registration form that states that said person:
 1. Will read and agree to abide by the Delta Youth Football League Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Delta Rules they are published annually.
 2. Acknowledges he/she is subject to disciplinary action in the form of fines, probation, suspension and/or disbarment if found to be in violation of these Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and/or Regulations, including individual Franchise violations.
- E. All Delta certified personnel must always have in their possession a current ID card/badge signed by the Commissioner authorizing their participation in the Delta.
 1. Said card/badge must have their photo affixed to it and be visible upon their person.
 2. Said card /badge will itemize person's name, franchise, division and position.
 3. If said card/badge is not visible or in his/her possession he/she will not be allowed upon any practice or game field.
- F. All Delta certified personnel will be allowed free access to all Delta jamborees, pre-season, post season, and regular season football games.
 1. He/she must present their current Delta card/badge with photo.
- G. The loaning or borrowing of Delta cards/badges from person to person is not allowed for any reason.
 1. If any Delta certified person is found in violation of this bylaw he/she may be subject to probation, suspension, or expulsion from Delta.
- H. Any and/or all Delta cards/badges may not be altered in any fashion.
- I. Delta certified personnel and Board Members may be certified to more than one position, but will only be issued one Delta card/badge.
 1. Said card/badge must show all positions of certification.
- J. Any Delta certified person may be asked to resign, whenever, in the opinion of the Executive Directors, the individual in question is not capable of handling boys/girls or of properly discharging the duties and responsibilities required of him/her by the Executive Directors.
- K. All Delta Board Members will be certified as Equipment Managers and Weighmasters.
- L. The following shall apply to all Delta certified personnel engaged in any Delta function.
 1. Cursing or derogatory remarks made by any Delta certified personnel at any organized Delta function may result in expulsion. Game officials, Franchise President of said person, or an Executive Director of Delta may initiate ejection for these offenses.

- a. If the same Delta certified personnel expelled under "1" above is ejected from a second function for the same offense he/she shall be relieved from his/her duties for the next three (3) consecutive weeks, including games and practices.
 - b. If the same Delta certified personnel expelled under "1" and "(a.)" above is ejected from a third function for the same offense he/she shall be suspended from his/her duties for the remainder of the current and the immediate following season.
- M. All Delta certified personnel involved in an officially conducted practice or game shall not be under the influence of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances to include tobacco products. This shall apply to all organized functions.
- N. Delta certified personnel must reserve criticism of participants for private moments or in the presence of the team *if* the balance of the team will benefit from the remarks. Criticism must always be constructive.
- O. Any Delta certified individual whose actions incite spectators to an altercation, physical violence and/or verbal/physical abuse of any team, franchise, participant, game day official or other certified Delta individual, will be suspended for the current and five (5) immediate following years.
- P. After thirty (30) calendar days from the first day of practice, DYFL certified personnel shall not be allowed to move from one Delta franchise to another until that season has been completed. Any Delta certified individual whose relationship with a franchise is severed, for any reason, shall not share any "franchise proprietary" information such as, but not limited to; plays, play books, personnel and/or roster information with any representative or member of another Delta franchise.
- Q. DYFL certified personnel shall not knowingly receive, use, share or disseminate any "franchise proprietary" information as described by and in the circumstances outlined in paragraph P of this article regardless of whether 12 or not the information came to them directly, indirectly or by indirect means.
- R. DYFL certified personnel found to be in violation of paragraph P and Q of this article will be subjected to disciplinary action which may include, but shall not be limited to, suspension, expulsion, and/or forfeiture of any right their franchise might have to participate in Post-Season play.
- S. Any Delta certified personnel that acts contrary to duly voted motions or resolutions may be investigated as provided in the Bylaws. The Executive Directors may order suspensions based upon their findings.
- T. Any said franchise board member, coach, player or cheerleader in which they were a willing participant or removed from a Delta Youth Football Franchise that does not return all football equipment, cheer equipment, practice or game gear, uniforms or still owes a monetary obligation to that franchise will not be allowed to coach or request a wavier or be allow to participate with another Franchise within DYFL until that said franchise has either received all said items or has been compensated by that said party. It's is the sole responsibility of that said franchise to inform other franchises, League Secretary and Conference Vice President prior to the third week of that season in progress to assist on resolving that matter.
- U. All Delta Certified Personnel must complete a DYFL Certified Personnel application.
Along with Megan's Law checks, fingerprinting will be required for all Delta Certified Personnel. Fingerprinting will be done by Delta and included in clinic fees.
- V. Personnel must complete a DYFL Certified Personnel Application.
- W. All DYFL certified football personnel (coaches and equipment managers) must complete the USA Football Certification prior to the first day of practice. Any coaches that are added after the first day of practice will be required to complete the USA Football Certification by the make up clinic date. Coaches who do not complete the USA Football Certification by the above dates will be ineligible to receive a badge.

ARTICLE XI - COACHING STAFF & DUTIES

- A. Each division shall consist of; one (1) Delta certified Head Coach and no more than seven (7) Delta certified Assistant Coaches. The team's coaching staff, under the direction of its Head Coach, shall be responsible for training and organizing the team and directing its play.
- B. Head Coaches
- 1. Head Coaches must be at least eighteen (18) years of age of unquestionable moral character.
 - 2. Head Coaches must be First Aid **and** CPR certified. First Aid/CPR certification must take place prior to the Head Coach participating in any practice or game.
 - a. If needed, Delta shall arrange through the American Red Cross or other qualified training group a date in which a First Aid and CPR certification may be obtained. Online first aid/CPR course certifications will not be recognized/valid.
 - b. Head Coaches must have in their possession and visible, proof of his/her First Aid and CPR certification as required.

- c. Practice cannot be conducted without a CPR certified person on the field.
 - d. If any franchise is found to have a non First Aid and CPR certified coach on the field, that franchise, will be fined \$500 and face suspension of the Head Coach and Franchise President.
3. A Head coach may only be assigned to one division (I.E. Novice Head Coach may not be a J.V. Head Coach during the same season) and will be solely responsible for the participants on his/her team.
 4. In the event a Head Coach is absent from practice or a game, the Franchise President must appoint a temporary Head Coach until his/her return. On game day, all temporary Head Football Coaches must be identified to game officials and the opposing team, prior to the start of their game. Failure to do so can result in forfeiture of the game.
 - a. Temporary Head Coaches will have all authority and responsibility of the Head Coach during his/her absence.
 - b. Temporary Head Coaches must be both First Aid and CPR certified.
- C. Assistant Coaches
1. Assistant Coaches must be at least eighteen (18) years of age of unquestionable moral character.
 2. Assistant Coaches must be First Aid certified and CPR certified. First Aid and CPR certification must take place prior to the Assistant Coach participating in any practice or game.
 - a. If needed, Delta shall arrange through the American Red Cross or other qualified training group a date in which a First Aid and CPR certification may be obtained.
 - b. Assistant Coaches must have in their possession and visible, proof of his/her First Aid and CPR certification as required.
 - c. If any franchise is found to have a non First Aid and CPR certified coach on the field, that franchise, will be fined \$500 and face suspension of the Head Coach and Franchise President.
- D. Junior Assistant Coaches
1. Each division may have two (2) Junior Assistant Coaches between 14 and 17 years of age (they must be 14 years old on/or prior to July 31st and must not be eligible to participate, example 14yr old sophomore). These Junior Assistant Coaches must attend the same Delta clinic and first aid requirements as adult Assistant Coaches.
 - a. If any franchise is found to have a non First Aid and/or CPR certified coach on the field, that franchise, will be fined \$500 and face suspension of the Head Coach and Franchise President.
 2. At no time may these assistants be left alone with or discipline participants. They may assist in teaching and conditioning.
 3. Junior Assistant Coaches will be counted as part of the division's seven (7) allowed assistant coaches.
- E. The Head Coach and/or Assistant Coaches must be present at all times when participants are engaged in any function representing Delta (i.e. practice, game, performance, etc.). This is to ensure proper supervision.
- F. Coaches may not engage in any live scrimmage or other violent contact with the players.
- G. Delta certified Head Coaches and Franchise Presidents are fully and directly responsible for the conduct of their players, assistant coaches, equipment managers, water boys, etc. while at, or participating in any Delta function. This includes, but is not limited to practices, weigh-ins, warm-ups, after games, while at the stadium, dinners, fundraisers, and any/all functions where Delta Youth Football is represented or participating. This will include weigh-in area, warm-up area, playing field, bench area, parking lot, bleachers, concession area, practice field, etc. all of the afore mentioned must accept all the decisions of all game officials.
1. Coaches and staff must remain in control at all times so as to set a good example for players and spectators.
 2. Any altercations or confrontations including verbal / physical abuse or violence between Players, Coaches, Managers, Teams, Franchises, League, or Game Officials in any Delta game or function will require detailed written reports to the Commissioner on the entire incident.
 - a. One (1) report from the president of both the home and visiting team.
 - b. One (1) report from the Head Coach or Assistant Coach in charge (if the Head Coach was not at the game) from both the home and visiting team.
 - c. One (1) report from the Game Day Official(s).
 - d. All reports will be sent by certified mail or e-mail, postmarked or time-date stamped no later than seventy-two (72) hours from the time of the incident or be presented in person at a grievance hearing, if one is called.
 - e. Those Presidents, Head Coaches or Assistant Coach in charge, (if the Head Coach is not at the game) who fail to make the reports as detail above (sub articles 2a-b) may be suspended immediately.

- f. Those teams whose Presidents, Head Coaches or Assistant Coach in charge, that fail to make such reports within the prescribed time may be denied the right to participate in any League or post-season game for the balance of the current and the immediate following two (2) seasons.

ARTICLE XII - PARENTS and SPECTATORS AFFILIATED with DELTA

- A. Adults affiliated with Delta (this *includes* all Delta certified personnel) found to have violated the Delta Bylaws may be suspended for the balance of the current and the immediate following season.
- B. Adults affiliated with Delta will always set a good example in personal appearance and actions while engaged any Delta activity.
- C. Adults affiliated with Delta shall not engage in any Delta activity while under the influence of alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances, including tobacco products.
 1. The consumption of alcoholic beverages, and/or controlled substances, and/or tobacco products at any DYFL game or practice, regardless of the nature, is prohibited. The California Penal Code strictly prohibits bringing alcoholic beverages tobacco, and/or tobacco products upon school grounds. Any individual found to have alcohol or a controlled substance upon them or in their possession shall immediately be removed from the grounds.
- D. Adults affiliated with Delta shall always strive to make every Delta activity serve as a training ground for life for its participants.
- E. Adults affiliated with Delta will not criticize the their own *or* opposing team, coaches, league directors, board members, game officials or fans by improper comments or gestures.
 1. They will not cause altercations or confrontations including verbal/physical abuse.
 2. They will not incite non-sportsmanlike conduct.
 3. They will not strike or threaten to strike any coach, manager, game official, officer or director of any Conference, League, Franchise and/or Booster Club, parent, guardian and/or spectator.
 4. Franchise presidents may be held responsible for the actions of their parents and fans.
- F. A parent or guardian may not criticize the Head Coach's decision(s) except at the appropriate time, place and manner as selected by the Head Coach.
- G. Adults affiliated with Delta will not permit the unauthorized use of funds committed to their custody in conjunction with their participation in any Delta program.
- H. A parent or guardian whose actions are found to be detrimental to the activities of Delta maybe requested to remove his/her participant from the program at the discretion of their Franchise President or member organization.
 1. Any decision to remove a participant may be appealed to the Executive Directors of Delta Youth Football.
- I. An adult expelled from a game is considered expelled for the remainder of the day.

ARTICLE XIII - WEIGHMASTER and EQUIPMENT MANAGERS

- A. Weighmasters and Equipment Managers will be required to attend a clinic conducted by the Commissioner or his/her appointed representative, which will primarily explain the Delta Bylaws, rules and procedures associated with their position. These clinics may be held in conjunction with the Annual Delta Coaches Clinic.
 1. Weighmasters and Equipment Managers not attending the main clinic will not be allowed to perform any function or responsibility of their position, until he/she has attended a make-up clinic.
- B. A maximum of four (4) Weighmaster and four (4) Equipment Manager cards may be issued to each franchise annually.
 1. Coaches certified as Weighmasters will not be allowed to certify their teams' division. (Example: Varsity Coaches cannot weigh in Varsity players, but may weigh in Novice and J.V. Divisions)

ARTICLE XIV - FRANCHISE AFFILIATION

- A. All Applications for new membership to Delta must be submitted by the January meeting.
 1. Approval of new membership requires a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
 2. Vote should be taken no later than the February meeting.

- a. If approved, the new franchise will be placed in a conference that is determined to be the best for Delta.
 - b. A simple majority vote of the Board of Directors is required for conference assignment of a *new* franchise.
- B. Franchises in good standing with Delta as of the February meeting, must deliver through their Franchise President to the Commissioner, prior to the convening of the March meeting, their letter of intent to be affiliate with Delta.
 - 1. All teams (divisions of a franchise) shall be covered in one (1) letter of intent.
- C. Prior to the July meeting, each Franchise must deliver their Membership **and** Referee Affiliation fees unless previous arrangements have been made in writing to the Executive Directors.
 - 1. This arrangement cannot be extended past the November DYFL meeting.
 - 2. Franchises that fail to comply with this Article by either neglecting to make arrangements or by not paying by the November meeting deadline shall be ineligible for post-season play of that season.
- D. The League Treasurer shall be responsible for all insurance matters and is the primary point of contact for Franchise Presidents.
- E. All Franchises are required to carry injury liability, property damage liability and accident medical insurance coverage.
 - 1. The minimum amount of insurance per type of coverage per team shall be set annually by the membership.
- F. The minimum accidental medical must:
 - 1. Cover injuries sustained while engaging in any Delta game or practice or in the participation of other Delta activities while traveling to or from a scheduled game or practice or other Delta activity.
 - 2. Cover all participants and Delta certified personnel with the insured franchise.
- G. All Delta Franchises will be required to carry "Directors and Officers Liability" insurance as part of their regular coverage.
- H. Insurance must be effective by the day proceeding the first official league practice and must not terminate prior to the day following the final game of the Delta season.
- I. Payment of insurance premiums by each Franchise must be made no later than the first Wednesday of July unless previous arrangements have been made in writing to the Executive Directors.
 - 1. This arrangement cannot be extended past the November DYFL meeting.
 - 2. Franchises that fail to comply with this Article by either neglecting to make arrangements or by not paying by the November meeting deadline shall be ineligible for post season play of that season.
- J. All Coaches Clinic fees must be paid no later than the October DYFL meeting unless previous arrangements have been made in writing to the Executive Directors.
 - 1. This arrangement cannot be extended past the November DYFL meeting.
 - 2. Franchises that fail to comply with this Article by either neglecting to make arrangements or by not paying by the November meeting deadline shall be ineligible for post-season play of that season.
- K. All fees/loans due to Delta must be paid in full no later than November 1st, unless previous arrangements, in writing, have been made with the Executive Directors.
 - 1. Any franchise that has fails to pay their balance of all other Delta fees or loans will be ineligible to participate in any post-season game and will lose claim to host its next scheduled Delta event.

ARTICLE XV - FRANCHISE REGISTRATION of PARTICIPANTS

- A. In order to be registered to a franchise and eligible for participation, every participant must have a current Delta player contract and must be completed with the following information and supporting documents: (this includes Players, Cheerleaders, Mascots, Water Boys and Ball Boys)
 - 1. All first year candidates must present to the franchise the following:
 - a. A copy of a legal birth certificate.
 - 1. Copies of a valid and properly recorded birth certificate will be deemed to fulfill the Franchises responsibility providing there are no strike-overs, erasures or other changes to the birth certificate which might raise a question as to the name and birth-date.
 - 2. In the event the player does not have a copy of a valid and properly recorded birth certificate, or in the event the franchise desires a decision on a copy of a birth certificate that has a strike

over, erasure or other change the player's birth-date shall be determined by the Executive Directors.

3. The decision of the Executive Directors cannot be appealed.
- b. A copy showing proof of grade level. (This verification pertains to the grade level of the participant during the SEASON of PARTICIPATION.) The following are acceptable forms of verification:
 1. A Report Card
 2. Standardize Test Results
 3. Verification letter from the school. This verification must be on school letterhead showing the participants name, current grade level, and signed by an Official School Representative.)
 4. DYFL Approved "Grade Level Verification Form".
2. Veteran participants (those individuals who participated in the previous season)
 - a. The franchise may present their previous year's "certified" contract to serve as verification of their age, birth date and grade level.
3. Every participant's parent/guardian must complete a Delta "contract" giving their consent for the individual to play football/cheer. Both parent and Participant must sign a "Code of Conduct".
 - a. This contract must be signed by the parent in the presence of a franchise representative, who also signs the contract. If the consent is revoked, the participant is immediately ineligible.
 - b. A recent picture must be affixed to the contract.
4. Every participant must annually obtain a physical and furnish the franchise with a written statement (physical form) from an examining physician or duly licensed chiropractor, PA, RN or other league authorized medical person as to his/her physical fitness to be able to participate in Delta.
 - a. The annual physical must state he/she is cleared for contact sports.
 - b. Be dated and signed by the physician or have the physicians "office stamp" on it.
 - c. The annual physical must be conducted within ninety (90) days of the first day of participation in any Delta franchise.
 - d. If at any time during the season a physician or duly licensed chiropractor should subsequently determine that the participant is no longer physically fit to participate, he/she is immediately ineligible.
 - e. Should an injury occur that requires that makes the participant ineligible for participation he/she shall remain ineligible until the franchise is given a medical release IN WRITING for his or her return to full participation.
- B. When all of the contact information, signatures and supporting documents have been compiled, the Franchise President will sign the contact as a declaration that he/she has reviewed the information provided and supports his/her participation with said franchise.
- C. A player who meets age and weight requirements *and* has been cut from another tackle football program may participate in a Delta franchise, after;
 1. He/she provides documentation from their previous coach concerning the amount of conditioning hours achieved.
- D. Spokespersons for the Franchise at the time of sign-ups and/or registrations are required to be very specific in replying to the questions from the candidates, parents and/or guardians. Answering all questions covering how the registration fee will be used, the type of insurance coverage carried by the Franchise, the Delta Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Franchise rules and regulations and any concerns that of the said parent or guardian.
- E. Prior to being certified to a roster each participant's contract must be "book checked". (Reviewed, stamped with an official Delta stamp *and* signed by an Executive Director in the appropriated area of the Delta contract)
- F. Conference Weighmasters shall compile a list of the "late registrants" (as defined by Delta), said list shall be available, upon request, to the League Vice Presidents and any Franchise President. The list shall include;
 1. The date of the player's registration
 2. Date of official notification
 3. Date for completion of conditioning.
 4. Date of the first game said player will be eligible to play.
- G. The League Weighmaster or Vice President will notify the franchise as to the
 1. Date of completion of the twenty (20) hours of conditioning, based on team practice schedule hours and days.
 2. The date said player will be eligible to play in a scrimmage, jamboree, League game, etc.

3. Said notification will be duly signed by the Weighmaster and become an addendum to the player's certification and contract, for all to review and see.
- H. No League official may certify ("book check") the contracts of a franchise in which they are affiliated.

ARTICLE XVI - TEAM/DIVISION REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

- A. A Franchise may not sign up more than 45 football players per team/division.
1. A football team/division shall have not less than *twenty (20)* or more than forty-five (45) players certified to its roster.
 2. The League does not set cheer squad sizes.
 3. There will be no cutting, of any eligible player that meets all the requirements of the Delta if a team roster has 45 or fewer players, *except* in cases of disciplinary problems and/or safety reasons at the discretion of the Franchise President.
 4. Taxi or reserve squads are expressly prohibited.
 5. Once a franchise has registered their maximum number of participants allowed or closed registration at a given division, said franchise cannot sign up any more participants to that division for the remainder of that season.
 - a. Once a franchise / division is closed as described above, the franchise president must notify the League Secretary by fax or e-mail.
 - b. If a franchise has signed more than 45 participants and "cuts" are necessary, "waivered" players are the first to be cut. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- B. A "sign-up roster" must be submitted to the League Secretary by the first day of practice by e-mail or fax.
- C. The certified team roster shall serve as the official form to affect the franchise registration of all participants with Delta.
1. Once a player has made weight and played in a regular season game he/she may not move up or down in divisions (i.e. if a player weighs in and plays in a J.V. game he /she may not move to the Novice team during week two or any other time during that season.)
- D. Certified team rosters shall be provided to the League Secretary by Tuesday following the last official weigh-in opportunity and must be prepared in a Delta approved format.
1. Franchises cannot list candidates that are ineligible (Have not been officially weighed or have not been book checked) or have been released / cut from the franchise.
- E. Roster information includes:
1. The Franchise and division
 2. Each participants; League age (defined as his/her age as of July 31st), official weight, birth date, current grade level, first & last name, address, city, zip, and phone number.
- F. Additions to a certified roster must be reviewed by the Conference Vice President or Conference Weighmaster within forty-eight (48) hours. To assure that;
1. No other section of these Bylaws have been circumvented.
 2. no such addition is made after the 4th game of the League schedule (including any non-league games).
 3. Any such addition does not replace a boy/girl already certified, still eligible and still willing to play.
- G. Once a participant has been certified to a roster, he/she cannot re-locate to another franchise in the same season.
1. If an appeal is made to the Executive Directors a participant may be moved if it is deemed to be in the best interest of all concerned.
- H. Once a participant has made weight and been certified to a roster he/she cannot move (up or down) to another division (i.e. a Jr. Novice participant cannot move to the Novice Division, etc.)

ARTICLE XVII - TEAM/DIVISION WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS

A. A Delta Franchise is comprised of four (4) divisions; Jr. Novice, Novice, Jr. Varsity and Varsity. Each division functions on the basis of the minimum and maximum age and weight limit. The chart below details each division.

	Jr. Novice	Jr Nov X-men	<u>Jr Nov</u> <u>o/l</u>	Novice	Novice X-man	Novice O/L	JV	JV Xman	JV O/L	Varsity	Varsity X Man
1 st grade	50-90	91 & Up									
2 nd Grade	50-90	91 & Up									
3 rd Grade			79.9 Or Less	60-110	111 & Up						
4 th Grade				60-110	111 & Up						
5 th Grade						99.9 Or Less	75-140	141 & UP			
6 th Grade							75-140	141 & Up			
7 th Grade									119.9 Or Less	100-190	191 & Up
8 th Grade										100-190	191 & Up

1. All Players are to receive a 5 pound increase for the entire regular season beginning week two (2) and an additional 3 pound weight increase for the entire post season. This will include freshman.
2. Only three (3) X-man allowed on the field at one time. They must play the line in a 3 or 4 point stance- CAN NOT be on kick off or kick of return. They are eligible for punt return.
3. X-man is not allowed to advance the ball.
4. Jr. Novice. Novice and Jr. Varsity Divisions will Have Unlimited o/l
5. All eligible 8th graders must play Varsity football.

ARTICLE XVIII - VETERANS CLAUSE / VETERANS STATUS

- A. Any individual who has participated in Delta for one (1) year or more and who by reason of his/her age in the current season is assigned to a division where he/she cannot meet the minimum weight requirement may be permitted to play in that division at the request of the his/her franchise. This provision will be known as the "Veterans Clause". (The Veterans clause will only be effective for the Novice, JV and Varsity level of play).
1. The "Veterans Clause" must be denied to any individual whose weight is more than ten (10) pounds below the minimum weight of the division in which he/she has been requested to play.
- B. Veteran status shall be defined as any participant who has participated at least one year in a Delta program.
1. Any participant, whether football or cheerleading, which has signed up and participated with a Delta Franchise, in those team's respective team boundaries, gains Veteran status. A Veteran who relocates twenty (20) miles outside of the team boundaries forfeits their Veteran status and the opportunity to play for any season thereafter while living outside the twenty (20) mile boundary.
 2. Any veteran, because of boundary adjustments or who has moved outside of his previous team's boundary, will receive an automatic waiver. This waiver will not count against the Franchise's limit of five (5).
 3. A veteran who does not participate in consecutive years with the DYFL will forfeit their veteran status.

4. Veteran status will cover the Jr. Novice division, except players that are playing out of area because the team in their area does not have a Jr. Novice division.
5. If a veteran player in good standing has a sibling that is not eligible to play on their team, he/she may play under their veteran sibling's status as long as the sibling is a verifiable sibling by birth certificate or court documents.

ARTICLE XVIII - PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- A. If a participant's parents and/or school should determine that his/her continued participation in Delta is adversely affecting his/her schooling, and advises the Franchise in writing, said boy/girl is immediately ineligible.
- B. A participant shall be ineligible during any season in which he/she is engaged in an inter-school tackle football program.
- C. A player who meets age and weight requirements *and* has been cut from another tackle football program may participate in a Delta franchise, after:
 1. He/she provides written documentation from their previous coach concerning the amount of conditioning hours achieved.
- D. Delta must declare a game forfeit by any team, which suited and/or played an ineligible player, after review by the Executive Directors.
- E. Delta must declare a game forfeit by any team that weighed in, suited and/or played a participant subsequently found to be ineligible by reason of age or weight.
 1. In the event both teams in a given game are found to have violated this paragraph the league must enter that game as a loss to the official league win-loss record of both teams. The game cannot be replayed.
- F. If a cheer or football player goes through "Book Check" with an opposing team and that team notices that the player does not have the required stamps, official records and/or appropriate signatures, then that participant is ineligible to participate in that game. They will remain ineligible until the necessary paperwork and missing items are corrected and the Official Roster is checked to verify that the player in question was on the particular team. If the player has participated in previous games up to this point and the opposing teams have checked and certified the player to play then that player was eligible in those previous games played.
- G. Any team/division within a franchise that has had an ineligible player participate in any scrimmage or game will automatically forfeit all games played to that point in the season and will be automatically be suspended from all post-season play.
 1. Any team that turns itself in for such violations will automatically forfeit all games played to that point in the season and *may* be suspended from all post-season play.
- H. Player eligibility, if challenged, must be investigated by the Conference Weighmaster.

ARTICLE XIX - OFFICIAL / GAME DAY WEIGH-INS

- A. Any coach, administrator or individual who knowingly allows an ineligible player, as described in Article XV (Weight), to participate in a game or scrimmage will immediately be expelled from Delta and may never again, in any capacity, be involved with any Delta Franchise.
- B. Definition of making weight.
 1. On a balance beam scale: participant qualifies if light can be seen above beam when scale is set on upper weight chart.
- C. It will be the responsibility of Delta to purchase and maintain, as needed, a minimum of two scales. These scales are to be used for all certified weigh-ins, pre-season weigh-ins and post-season weigh-ins. It will be the duty of the Conference Weighmasters to maintain or have maintained all Delta scales.
- D. Delta Franchises must have a league approved scale available for use at each scheduled home game. The scale must be in proper working order. All official scales for game days are to be certified and display a current certification sticker prior to the start of the each season.
- E. Official Weigh-Ins
 1. Official Weigh-Ins will be prior to the first game week of the season.
 2. The Conference Weighmaster and/or Conference Vice President will secure a place for said weigh-ins. Dates and times will be determined each season.
 3. Official Weigh-Ins will take place in the North and in the South.
 4. The Conference Weighmasters will conduct all Official Weigh-Ins.
 - a. He/she may appoint another Executive Director to assist them.

5. At the time of Official Weigh-Ins the participant's contract *should* be complete and a picture *must* be affixed to the contract.
6. Participants are required to wear a T-shirt, athletic shorts (no denim or corduroy) and socks to Official Weigh-Ins. No pads, girdles, helmets or shoes. No exceptions.
7. Participants that fail to make weight must re-weigh until he/she makes weight.
8. A date will be set by the Conference Vice President and Conference Weighmaster to re-weigh those who have not made weight.
 - a. This re-weigh will be completed no later than the Friday prior to the third game of the season.
 - b. If, after the final weigh-in opportunity, the participant still does not make weight he/she will be cut from the team.
9. Once the participant has "made weight" the Conference Weighmaster or the duly appointed Executive Director will:
 - a. Document the participants actual weight in the appropriate area of his/her contract,
 - b. Initial or sign the weight area as documented,
 - c. Stamp the appropriate area with an official Delta stamp or seal.
 - d. Highlight the contracts of all "older lighter" participants.
 - e. Highlight the contracts of those participants who are within 5 pounds of the minimum or maximum weight for his/her division.

F. Pre-Game Weigh-Ins

1. Mandatory pre-game weigh-ins will be scheduled not more than two (2) hours and not less than one (1) hour prior to kickoff.
2. Pre-game weigh-ins shall be conducted by an authorized representative of each team/division appointed and designated by the Franchise President and certified by Delta as a Weighmaster. The Weighmasters have the final word in any determination.
3. The home team Weighmaster will be responsible for informing all other personnel of restrictions governing the weigh-in area.
 - a. Only Franchise Weighmasters, Conference Weighmasters, the Commissioner, Conference Vice Presidents and/or a record keeper will be allowed in the weigh-in area.
 - b. All Coaches, Equipment Managers, trainers, or other non-designated persons found to be in the weigh-in area will be suspended from all Delta activities and functions immediately. Further disciplinary action will be subject to a hearing of a grievance committee.
 - c. Weigh-ins will stop until said person(s) are removed from the weigh-in area.
4. If a participant exceeds his/her maximum weight limit or is below his/her minimum weight limit at a pre-game weigh-in, he/she is ineligible for that game only.
 - a. A participant may not be withheld from a pre-game weigh-in because he/she was found to be overweight/underweight prior to the time his/her entire team weighs in.
5. The decision of the Weighmaster on game day cannot be appealed.
6. Weighmasters are prohibited from permitting participants who are overweight/underweight to play.
 - a. If Weighmasters are found to have agreed between themselves and/or coaches to permit a participant who is overweight/underweight to play, the teams involved must be ruled by the League ineligible for the Play-Offs/League Championships during that season.
7. Participants will be required to have/wear their game jersey at all pre-game weigh-ins. No helmets will be worn during the weigh-ins, but shoulder pads are allowed.
8. Each participant must have an official Delta contract that has been;
 - a. "book checked",
 - b. Officially "weighed -in" *and*
 - c. Has an affixed photo with all of the required Delta stamps & signatures.
 - d. There will be no exceptions to these requirements.
9. Scales must be balanced to the satisfaction of the two (2) Weighmasters prior to each team weighing-in and remain at that setting for both teams.
10. Participants will weigh-in as follows
 - a. highlighted cards first (any participant who is within 5 pounds of the minimum weight for his/her division must have their certified weight high-lighted on his/her contract.)

- b. Followed by older/lighter's, with the remaining team members in alphabetical order and dressed as required.
 1. The participants must have gone to the bathroom.
 2. They must stand on the scale with both feet entirely on the scale and centered.
 3. The participants must be facing forward and stand on the scale until he/she is told to step off by the Weighmaster.
11. If the participant does not make weight, he/she may strip as he/she feels comfortable and step back on the scale and weigh once more. No adult may demand a player to completely strip.
 - a. A player who has a highlighted contract must weigh-in every pre-game weigh-in without any football equipment on. Example: No body pads, no shoulder pads, no shoes, no helmet.
 - b. The scale is to be set at the minimum weight for that players division. If using a balance beam scale the balance beam must rise off the lower stop.
 - c. An overweight player may not leave the weigh-in area and re-weigh at the end of the weigh-ins. This practice is prohibited. If a player is overweight and would like to remove clothing and reweigh, he/she may do so but that player may not leave the weigh-in area until after their final re-weigh.
12. After every participant has weighed-in, his/her contract must be dated and initialed by the game day Weighmasters and counted to compare with the number of boys/girls on the field.
 - a. For those participants who did not make weight, their cards must be dated, with the weight recorded, and card initialed.
 - b. An overweight/underweight participant will be allowed on the sidelines and bench area without his/her pads and helmet.
13. A participant will be ineligible if found to be using sweating down tactics, such as, but not limited to use of steam rooms, cabinets, rubber sweat suits, garbage bags, plastic wrap, running and/or any actions being used for the purpose of temporarily reducing their weight. The participant will be determined ineligible by the opposing team's Franchises President and Weighmaster.
 - a. Each Franchise will file a report in writing to the Executive Directors within forty-eight (48) hours, signed by the President and Weighmaster.
14. Each hosting Franchise will be required to complete a DYFL weigh-in reporting form where they will report names and jersey numbers of players who do not make weight and report names of Franchise personnel that interfere with Delta bylaws.

ARTICLE XX - CHEERLEADING and CHEER COACHES

- A. In addition to the following amendments, all Delta Articles of Incorporation Bylaws, Rules and Regulations shall apply to all cheerleaders and cheer coaches with the exception of weight.
- B. Head Cheer Coaches are responsible for the screening of all chants, cheers, and dance routines (including all music), to verify that they are uplifting for the team and not insulting to the opposing team.
1. There shall be mandatory meeting for all Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches prior to the start of the season to ensure that we understand the problems of the past, so that each year we will be better.
 2. It is the duty of every coach to teach the cheerleaders to behave like ladies and gentlemen. Non-sportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated.
 1. No midriffs may be exposed during practice or games. Shirts and vest must remain overlapping with sweats and skirts at all times.
 2. No undergarments may be exposed during practice or games. All undergarments must remain covered at all times.
 3. With the exception of spotting for stunts, Cheer Coaches are prohibited from performing with cheer squads.
 4. Complaints against an opposing cheerleader, cheer squad, and/or coach should be presented in writing to your Franchise President in accordance with Article XXIV.
- C. Cheerleaders/Cheer Coaches will utilize the National **Federation of State High School Associations Spirit Rule Book** during all Delta functions including practices, except when modified by these Bylaws.

Junior Novice	Novice	Junior Varsity	Varsity
1 st Grade			
2 nd Grade			
	3 rd Grade		
	4 th Grade		
		5 th Grade	
		6 th Grade	
			7 th Grade
			8 th Grade

- 1 All articles and/or sections (Delta Bylaws) pertaining to weight shall not apply to cheerleaders. No older lighter ages apply. Please refer the following chart for assigning cheerleaders into Divisions. (All levels are determined by grade level as outlined in above chart)
2. Mascots **under** the league age of six (6) are allowed, at the discretion of the individual Franchise. Mascots are not cheerleaders
3. The League does not set cheer squad sizes.
4. Cheerleaders are to behave in a sportsman like fashion. Rude and insulting behavior will not be tolerated. This type of behavior will result in an automatic expulsion for the remainder of the game.
5. All coaches must maintain proper dress code during all practices and games. This includes proper and safe foot wear (no sandals) at any time during practice or games.

- D. The following rules apply to the Junior Novice and Novice divisions. Junior Varsity and Varsity divisions shall be governed solely by **NFHS** rules.
1. No pyramids are permitted higher than two (2) tiers (The cheerleader in contact with the ground is the first tier).
 2. Each cheerleader that is in a position off the ground shall have a "back spot" as follows;
 3. Adult spotters are individuals eighteen years of age or older. Must be Delta Certified, must adhere to the same requirements as the stunting team to assure their safety. (Example: Nails must be short, no jewelry to be worn while spotting, hair needs to be pulled back and no pendants on clothing.)
 - i. At the Jr. Novice Division - All adult spotters must be within Arm's length of the individual (off the ground) being spotted at all times. No thrown dismounts are allowed. No Exceptions.
 - ii. At the Novice Division - All adult spotters must **BE Arm's Length** on the individual (off the ground) being spotted at all times. No thrown dismount are allowed. No Exceptions.
 4. Violations of the rules of this Section will result in automatic suspension of the Head Coach for three games.
 5. No collapsible pyramids. Cheerleaders should dismount from the pyramid as directed by the Head Coach with safety in mind.
 6. Pop cradles, toe touch cradles, twist cradles, full down cradles, etc. **are** allowed.
 7. All forms of flip mounts, flip dismounts, basket tosses (**see NFHS rule book for clarification**) and sponge tosses are not allowed.
 8. A cheerleader can drop from a mount straight back or forward into a cradle catch (Which comprises of several cheerleaders interweaving and interlocking their arms to form a cradle into which the cheerleader will fall).
 9. Franchises that elect to incorporate tumbling maneuvers (with the exception of cartwheels) shall have at least one coach (Coordinator, Head, or Assistant) who is readily familiar with the execution of tumbling maneuvers. They are not required to execute the skill or be a certified gymnast, however, the coach should be familiar with the skill whether from hands on execution or their presence during training held by a professional gymnast.
 10. A cheerleader shall not be held in a split position off the floor by one or more persons, at any time.
 11. The use of mini trampolines is prohibited.
 12. No seat drops are permitted (dropping to the floor with the seat as the primary point of contact).
 13. No knee drops are permitted (dropping to the floor with the knees as the primary point of contact).
 14. No body drops are permitted (dead falls or dropping directly onto the floor).
 15. There shall be no back bends supporting additional weight.
 16. There shall be no "flying" or "suicide" splits meaning anytime a cheerleader goes from standing or jumping position into a "splits" position.
 17. Splits are allowed only when cheerleader goes into "splits" position gradually, starting when the ankles going up come in contact with the ground.
 18. Time must be made available to each cheer squad to perform during half time of each game. No squad will be prohibited from performing except for disciplinary or safety reasons.
 19. Half-time routines are limited to three minutes total, with the exception of a franchises' Homecoming. (Cheerleaders may perform their dance and cheer routines during halftime to their own fans in the same tradition as high school teams with the opposing cheer team watching the cheer performance of the team from the opponent's sideline)
 20. During a franchises "homecoming game" ONLY, cheerleaders from all divisions can perform together during half-time(s). The Home franchise that elects to have a Homecoming must contact the visiting franchise to inform them of "Homecoming Activities".
- E. Conditioning
1. Cheerleaders are required to condition for one (1) hour of each practice for the first two weeks, to be equivalent to ten hours.
 2. Absolutely no stunting practice prior to the completion of twenty (20) hours of practice.
- F. Game Day
1. Before the start of any jamboree, pre-season, regular season, or post-season game cheerleaders must be "signed in" by an opposing team coach, Delta Board member, etc. (Cheerleaders can warm up prior to checking in)
 2. Cheerleaders shall do no less than twenty (20) minutes of warm up prior to the start of each game.
 3. Violations of paragraph E, 1 & 2 of this section may result in the cheer team not being able to start on time and/or the Head Coach being suspended for one game.
- G. Participation in Delta
1. There are to be no outside activities, referring to competitions, etc, that interfere with any Delta football activities.
 - a. The first priority of a Delta Cheerleader will be all practices and games for their respective Franchise/Division.

- b. Cheerleaders affiliated with Delta may not be a part of another cheer team while Delta is “in season”, to include but not limited to competition and school squads.
- c. Delta affiliated cheer teams may participate in any competition during the Delta season (includes; pre, regular and post season) with the following exceptions;
 - 1. The event is Delta sanctioned.
 - 2. The franchise has requested and received Executive Board approval and insurance for the event.
- d. Teams may not be split to attend two events (all cheerleaders listed on a roster are to participate, cannot split a team so that some of the cheerleaders’ cheer for their Franchise Delta while the other half participate in a competition or other non-Delta event).
- e. Any violation of this rule will result in the automatic suspension of the Head Coach for the remainder of the season and formal probation for the following upcoming season.

H. Post Season

- 1. There will be a post season cheer competition known as the “Nancy Walsh Cheer Show”.
- 2. Cheer competitions need to be done in an adequate facility with appropriate cheer mat space as defined in UCA/USA cheer competitions. Judges should be impartial without current or past connection to any franchise. Judges as with football officials should be paid professionals trained in this specific discipline.

I. Cheer Camp

- 1. If your Franchise participates in a cheer camp, one of them MUST be the DYFL Cheer Camp and 50% of your cheerleaders (mascots will count in the 50%) must attend. You may attend other camps as well but the DYFL Cheer Camp will be mandatory.

ARTICLE XXI - PRACTICE

- A. A practice session is defined as a gathering of any amount of participants and a Coach(s) with the express intent of conducting an organized practice, where the following activities take place: chalk talk, skull sessions, viewing of films, group conditioning, individual skill sessions, and/or any scrimmage with another team.
 - 1. Practice will start at the discretion of the Executive Directors, to be scheduled annually. Split practice sessions will not be allowed.
- B. The following are requirements for practice sessions of all Delta franchises:
 - 1. A CPR certified person must be on the field at all times.
 - 2. A well-stocked first aid kit must be on the field at all times.
 - 3. All participants’ (football and cheer) contracts must be on the field at all times.
 - 4. Franchises shall have a phone at their immediate disposal at all practices.
 - 5. All practice sites must be on file with the League Treasurer to meet insurance requirements.
 - a. Should a practice site change for any reason, during any the pre, regular or post season the League Treasurer must be notified *prior* to the site change to meet insurance requirements.
- C. Football Conditioning/Practice
 - 1. Helmets should be worn as soon as possible so as to strengthen the neck muscles.
 - 2. Only Delta certified coaches can supervise conditioning or practices.
 - 3. Prior to physical contact, each participant must experience;
 - a. Ten (10) hours of conditioning. During these first ten (10) hours of conditioning, no footballs shall be allowed.
 - b. Followed by ten (10) hours of non-contact practice.
 - 4. Players must have a minimum of 10 hours of contact practice prior to participating in scrimmages, jamborees, practice games, and/or regular games.
 - a. Any head coach found to be in violation of this article shall be automatically suspended for seven (7) days by the Executive Directors.
 - 5. All contact drills and scrimmages are restricted to the division in which the participants are assigned. (Example, Novice to Novice, Jr. Varsity to Jr. Varsity, etc.).
 - a. Any coach found in violation of this bylaw will be subject to suspension and/or probation to be determined by the Executive Directors.
 - 6. A Coach may be disciplined by the Executive Directors for instructing any drill or technique, such as “bull in the ring”, where a group of players are instructed or encouraged to administer physical abuse or excessive contact upon a player or group.
- D. Practice Sessions/Hours

1. Practice sessions prior to the first game are as follows;
 - a. Five (5) daily sessions of two (2) hours in duration each.
2. Practice sessions after the first game can be as follows;
 - a. Three (3) daily sessions of two (2) hour duration each or four (4) daily sessions of one and one half (1 ½) hours duration each.

Prior to the (1) First Game of the Season	After the (1) First Game of the Season	After the (1) First Game of the Season
(5) five days @ (2) two hours per day, max of (10) ten hours per week	(3) three days @ (2) two hours per day, max of (6) six hours per week	(4) four days @ (1 ½) one and one half hours per day, max of (6) hours per week

- b. After the first game of the season each team will be allowed an additional hour **non-contact**, walk through practice session weekly.
 1. Should Cheerleaders elect to utilize this one (1) hour session, it is limited to team building and/or game preparation. No exceptions.
 - c. Participants must attend four (4) full hours out of six (6) hours of contact practice of any given week to be eligible to participate in that week's game (this includes cheerleaders).
 - d. Those participants who miss more than (2) two consecutive weeks of practice during the regular and/or post season he/she must have a minimum of ten (10) hours of contact practice before returning to participate in the next scheduled game.
 - e. Any participant that requires a recertification hours due to injury must provide a medical release to League Secretary and Conference Vice-President. Release must state clearly that participant is cleared from physical fitness and or physical contact. Conference Vice-President will advise franchise presidents as to when the participant will be eligible to play in the next game.
 - f. Coaches must maintain attendance logs and be prepared to show practice hours upon request.
3. Prior to the first game of the season a practice schedule outlining a franchises practice days, times, and locations must be forwarded to League Secretary and Conference Vice- Presidents. Any changes or deviations from schedule, Franchise President must notify League Secretary and Conference Vice-Presidents prior to any deviations from practice schedule.

E. Scrimmages/Practice Games

1. Scrimmages and/or practice games against other teams require the prior approval of the Conference Vice President and the league insurance company.
2. All members of a Franchise including but not limited to; players, parents, cheerleaders, coaches and managers are prohibited from attending any practice session of any future opponent for the purpose of scouting.
3. Any Delta team/division that schedules, conducts, and/or plays and/or attempts to negotiate a controlled or practice scrimmage and/or exhibition, pre-season, bye week, post-season or bowl game not scheduled and/or negotiated by their Franchise President, shall be denied the right to engage in games of the League during the current and immediate following season.

F. Equipment/Safety/Weight pertaining to practice:

1. It shall be mandatory that each franchise have their football helmets reconditioned for safety every odd year.
 - a. NO FRANCHISE will be allowed to have more participants then helmets certified or purchased for any said year in progress. Those found to be in violation be subject to disciplinary actions under Article XXIV.
 - b. A copy of helmet re-certification must be given to League Secretary (2) two weeks prior to any helmet being issued.
 - c. A tentative copy of a certified roster must be given to League Secretary (2) two weeks prior to any helmet being issued so the League Secretary and Equipment Coordinator are able to compare the number of helmets to the numbers participants on the tentative roster.
 - d. When new helmets are purchased the original bill of sale or receipt must be given to the League Secretary so the Equipment Coordinator may include them in the franchise helmet inventory list.

- e. Franchises may choose to have their helmets certified every year or have the option to certify all or any helmets of their competitive levels that they deem to be in the best interest and/or safety of their participants/franchise.
 - f. Copies of Helmet Certification and/or Helmet purchases will be forwarded to the Equipment Coordinator via the League Secretary. The Equipment Coordinator will create an inventory log and provide a list to League Secretary and both Conference Vice-Presidents prior to equipment being issued.
2. At all contact practices, all players shall wear full protective equipment as required in the current National Federation of State High School Association's Football Rule Book.
 - a. It is strongly recommended that all DYF players wear a supporter (jock strap).
 - b. Sneakers, non-detachable cleats *or* detachable cleats are mandatory at all times and must meet the requirements of the current rule book listed above.
 3. A player who is more than ten (10) pounds overweight for his/her division *or* more than five (5) pounds underweight for his/her division must not be issued any pads, nor shall that player participate in any contact drills.
 4. No player or cheerleader will be allowed to participate in any practice, jamboree or scrimmage while they have a cast (hard or soft) on any part of their person. Conditioning during practice may continue with written permission from an attending physician. They will only be allowed to return to competitive action after said cast is removed and have written permission from their doctor.
 - a. If conditioning has not been maintained, the participant must complete one week (6 hours) of conditioning after the cast is removed.
 - b. Football players must complete an additional week (6 hours) of contact before being placed into a game situation.
 5. Any participant removed from field of play due to injuries such as concussions, heat exhaustion, and fainting must provide a medical release prior to them returning to their next scheduled practice. A) A medical release from physician must be emailed or faxed to league secretary within 48 hours of such document. A copy of medical release must be attached to participant's contract. Medical release must state cleared for physical fitness and physical contact if applies.
- G. Heat prostration is a common problem among participants, so it is necessary that water breaks be given to the participants in accordance to heat, humidity and the level of activity.
12. It shall be the responsibility of the Head Coach to assure that water breaks are given in accordance with this Article.
 13. Do not limit, within reason, a participant's water intake.
- H. Franchises that fail to comply with this Article shall be denied the right to have any/all of their teams/divisions engage in games of the League during the current and immediate following season.

ARTICLE XXII - SCHEDULES

- A. The following rules shall govern the scheduling of all games for all Delta teams:
1. Jamborees shall be held yearly with the directions and provisions stated during the annual scheduling meeting in March.
 2. All exhibition or post-season games must be scheduled and played with the prior approval of the Commissioner and under the control and supervision of the host Franchise President.
 3. A Franchise team/division that is on probation or suspension by Delta is ineligible to play in an exhibition, post-season, championship and/or Delta tournament game.
- B. Conference Vice Presidents are responsible for the scheduling of all League games and scrimmages. The format to be used in scheduling shall be as follows:
1. The game schedule shall consist of at least ten (10) games.
 2. The Executive Directors will determine the dates for the Playoffs and Superbowl.
 3. A franchise must play all franchises within their own Conference and enough non-conference games to total at least a ten (10) game season. All non-Conference games are to be played first if possible.
- C. The tentative league schedule must be complete prior to the regular May meeting of Delta.
- D. Scheduling will provide that each Franchise will commit its teams to League games in given divisions on given weekends either away or at home.

1. Scheduling shall be done on a rotation basis, if possible, so that no team should have a "bye" game with another team more than one year in a row.
- E. A franchise wishing to change the date, time or location of a game, which has been scheduled by the league, must do so with notification to the Delta Board no later than two (2) weeks between the date of the request and the date of the game as originally scheduled.
1. Any Franchise that violates this section may be subject to fines and/or other penalties at the discretion of the Executive Directors.
 2. Any change from the original schedule (date, time or location) must be approved by both Franchises involved in the scheduled game.
 3. The Commissioner or an appointed representative shall coordinate all emergency revisions to game times, dates or locations with the teams affected.
- F. A Franchise that fails to provide a team committed in the scheduling will be fined \$125.00 by the League. The fine, so levied, must be paid to the League within thirty (30) days from the date of the scheduled game.
1. Any Franchise that fails to provide a team committed in the scheduling shall be responsible for payment of the official's fees for the game in question. The thirty (30) day schedule for payment shall apply.
 2. If a Franchise fails to pay its fine (F above) the Franchise shall be prohibited from engaging in tournament play during the present season and from all league games during the following season.
- G. In the event of extreme hardship, subject to the approval of the Executive Directors, a Franchise may request to cancel a specific scheduling agreement and avoid the penalties of the previous paragraph.
- H. The Commissioner shall have the power to cancel any League game of any Franchise that invokes Paragraph G of this Article.
1. Such cancellations will be for the sole purpose of adjusting schedules in order that the offended Franchise will not suffer a "bye date" by reason of the action of the Franchise that invoked the provisions of said Paragraph G of this Article.
 2. There shall be no appeal from the commissioner's cancellation actions under this paragraph.
- I. The above fines and penalty features are applicable to all League games including Delta playoffs.
- J. All Delta Franchises are required to participate in all scheduled games that include their franchise (regular & post season games).
1. All Franchises are required to participate in all levels of Jamborees and the All-star game.
- K. All Franchises that are scheduled to host a pre and/or post-season event must have an actual football field that has an adequate playing field, seating and restroom facilities for the event it is hosting.

ARTICLE XXIII - OFFICIALS

- A. Delta requires that the home Franchises employ the services of at least three (3) officials accredited by the League. Under extenuating circumstances with agreement of both Franchise Presidents, the game may be played as scheduled with no less than three (3) officials. Responsibility for the payment of the officials' services shall be that of the home Franchise. Payment is to be made not later than half time of the Varsity game. The rates that apply to all officials in the Delta shall be determined yearly by the Board of Directors with the Officials Representative. Pay for the current season is \$250.00 per official per day for 4 games.
- B. No rookies are to officiate during the championship games. The Executive Directors will determine the post-season crews based on the rating system... (how the head coaches have rated the officials throughout the year)...along with input from the Referee Liaison.
- C. A total of four (4) experienced officials are required for all post season games, including the championship game.
- D. An official may not serve on any Delta Franchise Board and/or Coaching staff during the same season that they officiate.
- E. Officials in any Delta game may be brought before the Board for any infractions of the Delta Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.
- F. An official who has a child affiliated with a Delta Franchise may not officiate any game that Franchise his/her child participates with.
- G. An official may request a coach be disciplined by the Delta Executive Board for un-sportsmanlike behavior or actions detrimental to Delta.
1. The request must be in writing with a full description of the incident.
 2. The request must be signed by a game official who witnessed the incident.
 3. The request must be forwarded to the Delta Referee Liaison within 72 hours of the incident.

- H. Officials working any and all Delta jamboree's (a maximum of 2 officials per session) will be paid \$50.00 per half day of work or \$100.00 per a full day of work.

ARTICLE XIV - GAMES

- A. All games must be scheduled in keeping with all applicable ordinances and State laws.
- B. The home team shall provide certified medical personnel and a phone for emergency situations on the playing field at all times, at all Delta games:
1. All teams shall have a well-stocked first aid kit and all participant contracts present at all times.
 2. All coaches must abide by all medical personnel's decision in all matters pertaining to a player's health, injuries and/or physical ability to participate in a game of the Delta program. Any player going to a doctor, hospital, or chiropractor must bring a written release from the treating personnel prior to rejoining any Delta function.
- C. Each Franchise may have one person per game designated as a Team Photographer on the sideline area. That person must wear (and must be visible) the Team Photographer card/badge issued by Delta. Only single frame picture cameras may be used. No video cameras. (He/she is not allowed FREE admittance.)
- D. Each Franchise may have one person per game designated as a Team Statistician on the sidelines. That person must wear (and must be visible) the Statistician card/badge issued by Delta. (He/she is not allowed FREE admittance.)
- E. Each Franchise may have up to two (2) persons per game designated as a Field Marshall to control their sidelines. Each must wear (and must be visible) the Field Marshall card/badge issued by Delta.
- F. Announcers shall not do play-by-play commentary of games (they will only report the facts of the game); he/she will not make negative comments about a penalty, official, participant or coach during the game. (He/she is not allowed FREE admittance.)
- G. The use of any electronic equipment (Headsets only) will be in accordance with the National Federation of State High School Associations Football Rule Book. Two (2) Delta certified coaches (outside the coaching box i.e. Press Box or stands) are the only team personnel allowed to use headsets and will not count against the team's eight (8) coach allowance per game.
- H. The use of game films, interchanged and/or taken by coaches, managers, scouts, parents or others for the purpose of scouting a future opponent is prohibited.
1. A scout must view and observe the game from the stands. Common courtesy dictates that all scouts should introduce themselves to the Head Coach or Franchise personnel of the teams involved in the game.
 2. Parents may only videotape games that their children participate in from the stands and never from the playing field or press box, using a hand held unit.
 3. Team video camera crews should be limited to one person and one camera. Only one crew shall be allowed per team, and shall be given access to the press box, space permitting, as long as both teams have access and are in agreement.
- I. Any team that has just completed a Delta league game must not participate in another league game prior to a ninety-four (94) hour time lapse.
- J. Night games may be scheduled on Fridays and Saturdays only.
1. A Varsity game of franchises playing on Sunday(s) will be scheduled to start no later than 5:00 p.m.
- K. A game that is terminated for any reason other than forfeiture may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Executive Directors.
- L. The cost of admission to any and all regular season DYFL games is:
1. \$5.00 for adults (18-54), \$3.00 for children (6-17), \$3.00 for seniors (55 and over), children 5 and under are free.
 2. All Delta certified (card carrying) individuals and participants (players/cheerleaders) will not be charged admission.
 3. Any present player with proper ID, Jersey or Delta Veterans Pass will be admitted to all Delta games, jamborees, or playoffs free of charge.
 4. All Franchises making up passes for their home games shall not use the terminology "Delta Youth Football Pass", and all passes must have prior approval of the Executive Directors of Delta. It must show the Franchise name, have written home games only excluding Jamborees and Playoffs.
 5. Outside food, candy, snacks or beverages shall not be brought into any DYF stadium. Exception to this rule will be made for any participants who need proper nutritional supplementation in order to participate. (Water or sports drink, fresh fruit and/or vegetables...) In order for this exception to be allowed, participants must

carry it in themselves and at NO time carry it into the bleachers. No fast food items, no junk food items and no like items that may be purchased at the franchise snack bar or concession stand will be allowed.

6. All bags and packages are subject to search at the discretion of the hosting franchise and/or any DELTA official.

M. Ejections

1. Any coach that is ejected from a game is ejected for the remainder of the day. He/she must leave the stadium for the remainder of the day. (Example: If a Novice Coach is ejected during his/her game, that coach may not return to the stadium for the Junior Varsity or Varsity games.)
 - a. Additionally, the ejected coach is automatically suspended from coaching for the next (2) two weeks of practice and (2) two additional games.
 - b. It is the responsibility of the franchise president to inform the League Secretary AND Franchise Presidents of the next (2) upcoming scheduled games by e-mail or written communication of the ejection. (Detail his/her first name, last name, position and division.)
 - c. If he/she coaches the in either of the next (2) two practices OR games it will count as an automatic forfeit.
 - d. Should a second ejection of the same coach occur he/she shall be suspended for the remainder of that season.
2. Any player that is ejected from a game is automatically ineligible to play during the next week's game. It is the responsibility of the franchise president to inform the League Secretary AND Franchise President of the next week's game by e-mail or written communication of the ejection. (Detail his/her first name, last name, and division.)
 - a. If he/she plays during the next week's game it will be counted as an automatic forfeit.
3. Any parent and/or spectator that is ejected from a game is ejected for the remainder of the day. He/she must leave the stadium for the remainder of the day. (Example: If a he/she is expelled during the Novice game he/she may not return for the Junior Varsity or Varsity games.)

N. There shall be no tailgating allowed at any Delta Youth Football League function (Pre, Regular or Post Season). Franchises should encourage the families and friends to patronize each Franchises snack bar in support of the continual improvement of Delta and its Franchises. This rule includes all DYFL certified individuals.

O. The winning of a Conference championship does not of itself guarantee or assure a team of a bowl bid or special awards or recognition for the members of the team.

P. Franchise presidents are responsible for calling in the scores of the Novice, J.V. and Varsity games to their Conference Public Relations Officer no later than Sunday evening following a game. Franchise failure to do so the first time will result in a \$50.00 fine and a \$100.00 fine for succeeding failures to report scores.

Q. This league does not require two (2) sets of game jerseys to participate, but recommends it, if financially possible.

R. The use of whistles and air-horns is expressly prohibited.

S. A first game cannot start earlier than 10am.

T. All franchises must register who will be the EMT for all home games. These EMT's shall provide information on all participants treated on the game day, in which they worked as team medics.

ARTICLE XXI - PLAYING RULES

All games will be played under the current Football Rule Book of the National Federation of State High School Associations and are subject to the following modifications:

- A. Teams in the Junior Novice, Novice and Jr. Varsity divisions are allowed the option of using a junior or intermediate size football.

Teams in the Varsity division must use an intermediate size football.

- Examples of appropriate footballs

Wilson composite footballs - TDJ are acceptable for Jr. Novice, Novice and J.V.

Wilson composite footballs - TDY are acceptable for Varsity.

Nike footballs - 2000J are acceptable for Jr. Novice, Novice and J.V.

Nike footballs - 2000Y are acceptable for Varsity

Rubber footballs - junior size are acceptable for Jr. Novice, Novice, and J.V.

Rubber footballs - Intermediate size are acceptable for Varsity.

* All others must be approved through the Commissioner and Conference Vice Presidents

- B. The home team is solely responsible for the preparation of the playing field and all required accessories for the game.

- C. The bench area/sidelines of both teams are limited to players and cheerleaders of the level that is being played. One Head coach and seven Assistant Coaches, the Franchise President, League Executive Directors, Medical Support, Game Day Officials and Chain Gang will be the only other individuals allowed on in this area. Each Franchise and its President is solely responsible for the exclusion of all spectators and other individuals from the bench area and all points within the sidelines or end zones other than the prior listed individuals. Any and all DYFL certified individuals on the sidelines must display their DYFL badge prominently on their person so as to be discernable to the game day officials. Franchises that violate this bylaw may be subject to a game penalty or disciplinary action from the league.
1. Game officials shall assess a fifteen (15) yard, Non-sportsmanlike conduct penalty against any team that has in its bench area any individuals other than those authorized above.
 2. The Executive Directors and all Franchise Presidents are empowered to direct the attention of game officials to violations of this Paragraph.
 3. Any team found guilty of placing or arranging to place, introducing or arranging to introduce, or in any manner conniving to cause the presence of unauthorized individuals in an opponent's bench area, shall forfeit the game in question and one position in its final league win-lost standings. In addition, the person that perpetrated such acts will be subjected to suspension from all activities.
 4. Chain crews shall not participate in a verbal manner that is offensive or non-sportsmanlike towards the opposing team. If so, they may be requested to move to the opposite side of the field by the game officials or be removed from chain crew duties.
 - a. Chain crew members must be at least 15 years of age and in high school.
- D. During treatment of an injured player, protocol to be followed is:
1. The closest qualified person responding to injured player will have priority authority over the injured player until a more qualified person arrives and identifies his/her self. (Example: trainer, E.M.T., paramedic, nurse, doctor)
- E. The length of quarters for all games shall be ten (10) minutes on a stop and go clock.
- F. No Two (2) minute warning
- G. During a P.A.T. attempt, a team may score one (1) point from what would be a touchdown and two (2) from what would be a field goal under rules governing play at other times during the game.
- H. Spearing will not be tolerated in Delta. Such an offense shall result in a fifteen (15) yard un-sportsmanlike conduct penalty and the removal of the offending player from the game at the discretion of the game officials.
1. Spearing, if taught by a Delta coach, shall subject said coach to summary dismissal upon finding of guilt after a hearing.
- I. Game official's decision, called on judgment, must never be questioned.
- J. Only protests involving rules interpretations or the eligibility of a player may be considered, never the judgment of a game official in calling a play. A protested game cannot be replayed.
- K. Coaches who remove their team/division from a game before the game is completed, as a protest against game officials, forfeit the game, relinquish any/all claims their team/division may have to their current league championship and place themselves on suspension until their actions can be heard by Delta and a decision made thereon.
1. All appeals to the forfeiture, loss of claim to championship or the suspension, shall be made to the Executive Directors.
- L. There must be additional competitive football to break ties in Delta games. If the score is tied at the end of regulation time, the National Federation of State High School Associations Football Rule will be used. (10 yard line overtime procedure)
- M. A Free Blocking Zone is allowed pursuant to the National Federation High School Sports. A player is able to block another player below the waist as long as the player is not engaged with another blocker. (3yards from line- tackle to tackle).
- N. No player or cheerleader will be allowed to participate in any game, jamboree, scrimmage, contest, and/or competition while they have a cast (hard or soft) on any part of their person. Conditioning during practice may continue with written permission from an attending physician. They will only be allowed to return to competitive action after said cast is removed and have written permission from their doctor.
1. If conditioning has not been maintained, the participant must complete one week (6 hours) of conditioning after the cast is removed.
 2. Football players must complete an additional week (6 hours) of contact before being placed into a game situation.

ARTICLE XXII - DIVISION MODIFICATIONS

A. Junior Novice Division

1. A Junior Novice team having more than (27) twenty-seven players certified to a roster will designate their players as offense or defense.
 - a. If a Junior Novice team on game day has 18-26 players on the roster they will be allowed (6) players to play both offense and defense regardless of jersey number. All others must remain designated offense or defense.
 - b. Once the participants are weighed in – this will determine the roster for the entire game regardless if you fall below 27 players due to injury – no changes during the game.
 - c. If a team has seventeen (17) or less players on game day, a forfeit will be declared.
 - d. In the event of an injury, a substitute player must be of the same designation (offense, defense) as the injured player being replaced. A non-designated player may be substituted, if a team does not have adequate designated players.
2. Prior to (or during) weigh-ins, coaches will exchange team rosters.
 - a. The team roster must clearly show players name and game jersey number who has suited up and weighed-in for that game day.
 - b. The team roster must designate each player as an offensive player or a defensive player for that game.
3. The DYFL Vice Presidents will have a mandatory meeting for the Franchise Presidents and Head Coach of every franchise that has or anticipates having a Junior Novice division prior to the DYFL Jamborees. No franchise will be allowed to participate in any games of their season without being in attendance of this meeting, no exceptions.
4. Jr. Novice rosters shall contain a minimum of twenty (20) players and a maximum of forty-five (45) players.
5. Absolutely NO CUTS shall be made from the Jr. Novice division except for disciplinary or safety reasons.
 - a. These exceptions will require approval of the franchise board.
6. Games will be played by High School rules – unless noted within the DYFL Bylaws.
 - a. Jr. Novice will start at the 35 yard line no kick offs.
 - b. If you declare a punt the ball will be moved 25 yards down field.
 - c. Receiving team will never start inside their own 25 yard line.
 - d. Offense and Defense lineman must be in a 3 or 4 point stances.
 - e. Defensive ends rushing must be hands down.
 - f. Line Backer must be 3 yards off line of scrimmage
 - g. Center is protected – No rushing into center (Needs to be able to get his head up)
 - h. Score shall be kept.
 - i. Each team will be granted 3 time outs per half.
 - j. There will be no special teams.
 - k. Defenses shall not blitz (NO BLITZING ALLOWED) and can rush no more than six (6) players. Those six (6) players are required to line up on the line of scrimmage.
 - l. No Coaches allowed on the field of play
7. ALL KIDS MUST PLAY.
8. Veteran status will cover the Jr. Novice division, except players that are playing out of area because the team in their area does not have a Jr. Novice division.
9. The Jr. Novice division will participate in pre and post-season events.
10. There will be an Oversight Committee for Delta. This five-person committee shall consist of the Vice Presidents, Secretary and one coach from each Conference. The Oversight Committee will review and resolve all questions and disputes. All decisions shall be communicated to the DYFL Board. The decision of the Oversight Committee shall be final.

B. Novice Division

- a. Jr. Novice will start at the 35 yard line no kick offs.
- b. If you declare a punt the ball will be moved 30 yards down field.
- c. Receiving team will never start inside their own 25 yard line.
- d. There will be no kick-off or punts.
- e. Extra points will scored 1 if by run and 2 if by pass.

C. Junior Varsity and Varsity Divisions

1. Junior Varsity and Varsity divisions will all play by the same rules.

ARTICLE XXIII - DELTA TOURNAMENT and POST SEASON PLAY

- A. The first week after regular season play, the first flight Varsity team from the South will play fourth flight Varsity team from the South and first flight Varsity team from the north will play fourth flight Varsity team from the North. The second flight Varsity team from the South will play the third flight Varsity team from the South, and the second flight Varsity team from the North will play the third flight Varsity team from the North. The same will apply to the Jr. Varsity, and Novice teams from the South and North. These teams will meet at a field of the Executive Directors choice.
- B. The second week after regular season play, the Varsity, Jr. Varsity, and Novice teams that won during the previous weekend games will play. The first flight team shall automatically have (home field) advantage.
- C. All of the divisional playoffs are to be held at a site in their respective divisions, i.e., North playoffs are to be held in the North and South play-offs are to be held in the South.
- D. Upon completion of Conference play-offs, the two (2) Varsity, the two (2) Jr. Varsity, and the two (2) Novice teams that won during the previous game will play in the Super Bowl. These games will be played at a date, time and place of the Executive Directors choice, to determine the championship of the Super Bowl.
 1. Home team advantage will belong to the team in which Conference the game is being hosted.
- E. League seating in each division shall be determined by:
 1. Record in your own Conference. (Non-Conference games will never apply)
 2. Head to head.
- F. In the event of a tie, the following set of rules would apply:
 1. In the event of a three or four way tie, a coin toss will be used to determine by post season seeding.
- G. During the course of any DYFL Jamboree, Playoff game, Super Bowl;
 1. The host team will receive 100% of all snack bar revenue.
 2. The League will receive 100% of the gate. Entry fee for these events will be \$5.00 for adults (18-54), \$3.00 for children (6-17), \$3.00 for seniors (55 and over), children 5 and under are free.
 3. The League will split the cost (50/50) for medical personnel, field cost and lights.
 4. The League will pay 100% of the official's fees.

ARTICLE XXIV - RECALLS, VIOLATIONS, INVESTIGATIONS, DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS, GRIEVANCES, HEARINGS and APPEALS TO THE COMMISSIONER and EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

- A. Recall of a Director
 1. On the written petition of the Executive Board vested with the right to vote, as set forth in Section 1 Article III of the Delta Youth Football League Bylaws, a special meeting can be convened to consider the recall of any member of the board. Such petition by the membership shall require that the place and time of the meeting to be no sooner than two (2) weeks, but no later than four (4) weeks following the date of the final signature to the petition or the date of the call, whichever the case maybe. A two-thirds (2/3) vote is necessary to recall. The agenda will be as follows:
 2. Call to order
 3. Roll call of members
 4. Approval of the voting strength
 5. New business, petition addressed
 6. For the good of Delta
 7. Adjournment
- B. VIOLATIONS and INVESTIGATIONS (A violation is any act or action that is contrary to the adopted, amended annually and enforced Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of Delta Youth Football.)
 1. The following are held accountable for their enforcement;
 - a. Executive Directors
 - b. Board of Directors

c. All Certified Personnel

2. Any Board member may investigate possible violations of the Delta Articles of Incorporation and/or Bylaws and/or conduct that are improper or detrimental to the welfare of Delta;
 - a. said investigation must be done in a timely manner
 - b. a report of the findings of the investigation must be submitted to the League Secretary (in writing)
3. Any Franchise President, who allows any coach or certified personnel, to participate in Delta activities (i.e. practices, games, fundraisers, etc.) while in violation of any Delta Rules, Bylaws, or Amendments and is brought to the attention of an Executive Director, will be immediately suspended. (a written follow up report needs to be submitted to the League Secretary)

C. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

1. League Directors, Franchise Board Members and/or Delta Certified Personnel found in violation of Delta rules, regulations or coaching ethics as defined in the Delta Youth Football League, Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws will be subject to a \$50.00 fine and suspension from active membership until such fine is paid;
 - a. A second violation shall result in an immediate expulsion.
 - b. The Commissioner, upon the approval of the Executive Directors, may adjust all fines and/or suspensions.
 - All fines and/or suspensions shall remain in effect pending any requested hearing or appeal.
 - Any Franchise whose voting privilege has been revoked due to non-payment of a fine and/or a suspension shall forfeit all claims to hosting a Delta League Pre or Post-Season event until said fine is paid or suspension is lifted.
2. A Franchise, whose voting privilege has been revoked due to non-payment of a fine and/or a suspension, shall forfeit all claims to championship until said fine is paid or suspension is lifted
3. When an issue arises that requires a vote of the Executive Directors, any Executive Director involved, whether personally or through Franchise affiliation, will recuse themselves from the voting process.
4. Fines, probation, suspensions, and/or expulsions are all potential "disciplinary actions" that may be imposed by the Executive Directors as a result of a violation and/or investigation.

D. GRIEVANCES (A "GRIEVANCE" is something thought reason enough to complain)

1. A Grievance Committee will be formed by the Commissioner to take action when a valid grievance is reported to Delta;
 - a. Said grievance must be in written form and either postmarked, e-mailed or hand delivered to any Executive Director within forty-eight (48) hours of the said infraction.
 - b. The report must detail the said grievance/violation(s) and include the Franchise(s) involved, dates, times, locations and specific infractions.
2. A Grievance Committee will be formed from the members of the Executive Directors. There must be a minimum of three (3) members to constitute a Grievance Committee.

E. HEARINGS of the GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

1. Within forty-eight (48) hours of a grievance being declared valid, the Commissioner will schedule a hearing time and date to occur within two weeks.
 - a. The subject of a disciplinary hearing must be notified at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to a meeting of the grievance committee, as to the time, place, charges, issues, and possible disciplinary actions to be reviewed at said hearing.
 - b. Hearings held pursuant to disciplinary actions instituted by a Franchise or the League are to be fairly and impartially conducted with opposing sides permitted to present both oral and written material in person or through chosen representatives.
 - c. All parties of the hearing have the right to present witnesses and testify in their own behalf.
 - d. All parties of the hearing are entitled to confront and be confronted by parties and witnesses of the other side and to cross-examine them.
 - e. In any such hearing, the applicable Article of Incorporation, By-laws, regulations and rules are to be made available to the Grievance Committee.
 - f. Accurate written minutes of the hearing are required.
 - g. The Grievance Committee must issue an oral and/or a written report within twenty-four (24) hours of the hearing. (This at the discretion of the Executive Directors) The report must note the finding of facts, the decision citing the applicable authority and the penalty(s) imposed.

F. APPEALS

1. An appeal to the findings of an investigation, violation or the Grievance Committee instituted by a Franchise or the League must be appealed to the Executive Directors in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of said findings.
 - a. The findings and disciplinary actions taken will remain in effect pending a ruling of the appeals board.

2. The Commissioner must arrange the time and place of the Appeal Hearing. All in attendance at the initial hearing will be invited to attend the Appeal Hearing.
3. Both parties shall be allowed to make a statement of position at the appeal hearing. The provisions in this Article will be applicable.
 - a. The Commissioner may rule on the admissibility of any and all evidence and testimony.
 - b. All Directors may question any witness and all parties to the action.
 - c. Accurate written minutes of the hearing are required.
 - d. Executive Directors, in an appeals hearing, may confirm, increase or decrease the penalty(s) imposed by the original committee of the disciplinary action. (The Executive Directors, in an appeal hearing, may ask questions as to any additional violations of the Delta Articles of Incorporation and/or Bylaws.
4. The Executive Directors must issue a written decision within twenty-four (24) hours of the conclusion of the appeal. Their decision must note the finding of facts, the decision citing applicable authority and the penalty(s) upheld, imposed, reduced or rescinded.
5. Only Delta certified personnel are entitled to an appeal hearing. The ruling of the Executive Directors on a protest, on a finding of a violation or an interpretation of Delta Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws cannot be appealed.

ARTICLE XXV - AWARDS AND RECOGNITONS

- A. Delta Youth Football Bob Griffith's Scholastic achievement award qualifications are:
 1. Any participant may apply for DYFL scholar athlete recognition who maintains at least a 3.0 (out of a possible 4.0) grade point average, and receives no citizenship marks below satisfactory, during the quarter they are participating in Delta or the last grading quarter of their school.
 2. Consideration will be given to candidates who attend schools that do not use letter grades or maintain a grading system computed on a norm higher than the average school. A letter from the school's principal must accompany the candidate's application package, which explains that the candidate would qualify for consideration with at least a 3.0 GPA if the school used letter grades on a 4.0 GPA grading criteria.
 3. Applications will be furnished to each Franchise President in his/her Presidents package and must be presented to the League Secretary.
 4. The Executive Directors will decide deadline each season.
 5. All applications must be bound in a folder and contain the following (all in the candidate's handwriting):
 - a. An Delta application listing full name, age, birth date, mailing address, phone number, parent(s)/guardian(s) names, name, address and phone number of school attended, grade level, Conference, and Franchise, division, position played, and number of years in organized tackle football.
 - b. The Franchise President and the candidate's parents must sign information sheet.
 - c. A complete copy of the candidate's last report card.
 - d. A one-page essay titled "Youth Football" or "Cheerleading in Youth Football".
 - e. One page autobiography including responsibilities around the home, favorite hobbies, special talents, and participation in school, community and related activities outside of Youth Football.
 - f. A picture of the candidate in uniform.
 6. Each candidate who full fills the requirements of the application provided will receive a plaque.
- B. A team that is on probation or suspension by action of the League, cannot be awarded the designation of League champions or receive league trophies in recognition of such designation.
- C. A Franchise or Coach may award helmet stickers, merit badges or other tokens in recognition of a participant's demonstration of skills learned.
 1. Awards shall not include anything with or like, skull and crossbones, swastikas, etc.
 2. All awards should reflect the team, the sport, and the spirit of youth athletics or the player's accomplishments.
- D. Each season a committee will be formed to select a "Football Coach of the Year" to represent the North and the South. A "Jim Hall" commemorative jacket will be awarded to each recipient.
- E. Each season a committee will be formed to select a "Cheerleading Coach of the Year" to represent the North and the South. A "*Nancy Walsh*" commemorative jacket will be awarded to each recipient.
- F. "Jerry Burns Franchise of the Year Award"
 1. Awarded to (1) one franchise per year.
 2. Must have representation at all DYFL meetings.
 3. All fees must be paid on time.
 4. Rosters must be submitted on time.

5. Must have representation at all DYFL functions (coach's clinics, pre / post season gate duty...)
 6. Award to be determined on an annual basis by the Executive Directors.
- G. Veteran passes will be good until the player/cheerleader turns 18 years of age.

ARTICLE XXVI - RULE BOOKS

- A. Each year the Commissioner will affect printing of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws in a sufficient number to allow distribution by the Commissioner to each Franchise President on the basis of the needs of his/her Franchise.
 1. In addition the Commissioner will affect copies of all changes to the Delta Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws to Franchise Presidents on the basis of the needs of his/her Franchise. The cost for each new complete set of Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws will be of a sufficient amount to offset the printing charges. There will be no charge for changes.
- B. The Commissioner will make available to the general public, on request, copies of the Delta Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws by posting current copy to website.