

# **BY-LAWS OF GOLDEN EMPIRE YOUTH FOOTBALL**

## **Section 1**

### **Purpose - Mission Statement**

**1.1** The purpose of this nonprofit organization is to provide a competitive youth tackle football program as well as a non competitive youth cheer program for elementary and junior high school students. The primary goal of this league is to provide a safe and educational training ground for the basic fundamentals of youth football and cheer, to develop sound mind, body and character while promoting an atmosphere of fun.

## **Section 2**

### **Rules**

**2.1** The National Federation of State High School Association (hereinafter referred to as “NFSHA”) rulebook is used for the actual playing rules for Golden Empire Youth Tackle Football (hereinafter referred to as “GEYTF”) games. Copies of this book may be obtained by writing to NFSHSA, 11724 Plaza Circle P.O Box 2026, Kansas City, Missouri 64195-0626.

**2.2** These By-Laws are meant to be a supplement to the NFSHA rules.

**2.3** These By-Laws are to be used in conjunction with all GEYTF “Core Values” as well as approved policies and procedures including the GEYF’ “Zero Tolerance Policy”.

**2.4** Plan of action for the 2016 season prepared by the 2016 Executive Board. Plan of action for the 2016 season must be approved by two-third majority of quorum of its Executive Board to become effective immediately for the 2016 season. Unplanned events during the season must be presented to the Executive Board in writing, and then approved by two-third majority of quorum of Executive Board.

## **Section 3**

### **Organization & Authority**

**3.0** The Executive Board is comprised of the League Commissioner, Northern Area Representative Supervisor, Southern Area Representative Supervisor, Treasurer, Secretary, and Athletic Director. Each member of the Executive Board will have a vote pertaining to GEYTF daily business. All GEYTF Board members in good standing will have full voting privileges with respect to all GEYTF daily business as well as all general and special board elections.

**3.0a** The **GEYTF League Commissioner** shall be nominated in the month of November and elected by GEYTF voting Board Members in good standing during the month of December. The League Commissioner shall preside over all meetings, shall act as the Executive Officer of GEYTF, appoint Board Members and or employees to handle other duties and responsibilities, and act as a de facto member of all committees. The League Commissioner shall arbitrate all disputes within GEYTF, issuing expedient decisions that will be binding until such time as the GEYTF Board can resolve the matter. The league commissioner shall enforce all GEYTF By-Laws, rules, policies, procedures, and directives from the Board, and promote the public image of GEYTF as a spokesperson for GEYTF.

**3.0b** The **Treasurer** of GEYTF shall be nominated in the month of November and elected by GEYTF voting Board Members in good standing during the month of December. The Treasurer will administrate all financial activity of GEYTF with Board approval. As an agenda item at all scheduled regular monthly meetings, the Treasurer shall prepare and submit for approval reports of GEYTF financial activities for the preceding month; the report to include, but not necessarily limited to, monthly expenditures, outstanding bills and current status of the league's account balance. The Treasurer shall prepare and submit an annual budget for approval by the GEYTF Board.

**3.0c** The **Secretary** of GEYTF shall be nominated in the month of November and elected by GEYTF voting Board Members in good standing during the month of December. The Secretary will record and prepare all minutes of regularly scheduled meetings for presentation to the Board for approval, and will maintain current copies of the League's Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, rules, policies, procedures, and Board Membership directory. The Secretary is also charged with reserving monthly and special meeting locations. The Secretary shall establish and maintain the GEYTF official files at the GEYTF league office, and have them ready for inspection per reserved request. The Secretary shall enforce all GEYTF By-Laws, rules, policies, and procedures.

**3.0d** The **GEYTF Area Representative Supervisors** shall be nominated in the month of November and elected by GEYTF voting Board members in good standing during the month of December. The Area Representative Supervisors shall perform all duties assigned by the League Commissioner. The Area Representative Supervisors shall be the direct link of communication to the Area Representatives and will assist each of his or her prospective conference Area Representatives with matters as needed. The Area Representative Supervisors will be responsible for the flow of information regarding any and all GEYTF activities and or announcements. The Area Representative Supervisors shall enforce all GEYTF By-Laws, rules, policies, and procedures.

**3.0e** The **GEYTF Athletic Director** shall be nominated in the month of November and elected by GEYTF voting Board Members in good standing during the month of December. The Athletic Director shall perform all duties assigned by the League Commissioner.

The Athletic Director shall be the direct link to the Board on all GEYTF equipment inventory. During the off season, the Athletic Director will work closely with the League's Executive Director in preparing the future equipment order based on current equipment inventory. The Athletic Director shall work with the Area Representative Supervisors and Area Representatives and their coaches to maintain and prepare each prospective area's football equipment for the upcoming season. The Athletic Director, Area Representatives, and each area's head coach will be responsible for the complete collection of all allocated GEYTF football equipment. The Athletic Director will maintain an approved schedule to equip all GEYTF non – independent teams during the equipment requisition period. The Athletic Director shall enforce all GEYTF By-Laws, rules, policies, and procedures.

**3.0f** The GEYTF **Fundraising Director** shall be nominated in the month of November and elected by GEYTF voting Board Members in good standing during the month of December. The Fundraising Director shall perform all duties assigned by the League Commissioner. The Fundraising Director shall be the direct link to the Board on all GEYTF fundraising activities. All Non Independent areas wishing to implement fundraising programs will submit such programs to the Fundraising Director in writing for review prior to initiating the program. All fundraising activities will be presented to the Board in writing with a budgeted line item forecast. The Fundraising Director shall enforce all GEYTF By-Laws, rules, policies, and procedures.

**3.0g** GEYTF **Area Representatives** shall be nominated in the month of November and elected by GEYTF voting Board Members in good standing during the month of December. GEYTF Area Representatives shall perform all duties assigned by the League Commissioner. GEYTF Area Representatives shall be responsible for the recruitment, selection, and nomination of all divisional coaches within his or her board approved geographical area. GEYTF Area Representatives shall be responsible for the overall supervision of his or her area up to and including conduct of coaches, parents, players and spectators. GEYTF Area Representatives shall be responsible for the management of all funds collected and or generated via fundraising efforts or any other financial endeavor within his or her prospective area. Working in conjunction with the League's Athletic Director GEYTF, Area Representatives shall be responsible for the maintenance, distribution, and collection of all GEYTF equipment allocated to his or her area. GEYTF Area Representatives shall enforce all GEYTF By-Laws, rules, policies, and procedures.

**3.0h** GEYTF **Coaches At Large** shall be nominated in the month of November and elected by GEYTF voting Board Members in good standing during the month of December. GEYTF Coaches shall perform all duties assigned by the League Commissioner. The GEYTF Coaches At Large shall serve as a league liaison to all divisional coaches in good standing within Golden Empire Youth Tackle Football. The GEYTF Coaches At Large will assist with the flow of information from the Board to coaches regarding the implementation of or change to existing GEYTF policies and or procedures.

The GEYTF Coaches At Large shall be responsible for the on-going training of all GEYTF divisional coaches within his or her prospective conference. The GEYTF Coaches At Large will work in conjunction with the Executive Board to coordinate and oversee the GEYTF annual mandatory coach's clinic. During each season, it will be the responsibility of the GEYTF Coaches At Large to both track and report all scores and standings from each of his or her prospective conference. Scores and standings will be reported to the GEYTF Webmaster and local media at the conclusion of each day's games. The GEYTF Coaches At Large will work directly with the League's Executive Director in preparing post season team seeding. The GEYTF Coaches At Large shall enforce all GEYTF By-Laws, rules, policies, and procedures.

**3.0i** The GEYTF **Cheer Directors** shall be nominated in the month of November and elected by GEYTF voting Board Members in good standing in the month of December. The GEYTF Cheer Directors shall perform all duties assigned by the League Commissioner. The GEYTF Cheer Directors will assist GEYTF Area Representatives in the recruitment, selection, and training of Area Cheer Coordinators and cheer coaches for his or her prospective conference. The Cheer Directors will be the direct link to the Board on all cheer related matters and will assist with the flow of information from the Board to all cheer coordinators and cheer coaches regarding the implementation of or change to existing GEYTF Policies and or procedures. The GEYTF Cheer Directors shall enforce all GEYTF By-Laws, rules, policies, and procedures.

**3.1** Executive authority empowers the League Commissioner to take whatever action deemed necessary to preserve good order and proper government for the protection of the league, divisions, areas, and participants.

**3.2** All Executive Board Members are empowered to attend any related program, practice, scrimmage, or game and will report to the Board any non – compliance of GEYTF rules.

**3.3** The League Commissioner may appoint other Board Members to handle other duties and responsibilities of the league. These other members represent the League Commissioner in these fields only.

**3.4** Monthly Board Meetings are for all Board Members to attend for the purpose of developing policies, procedures, and rules for the benefit of GEYTF, to share problems and successes for the betterment of the league, its purpose and mission.

**3.5** Board Meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each calendar month at 6:00pm at a location pre determined by the GEYTF Board of Directors.

**3.6** GEYTF will bank at Mission Bank located at 1330 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA.

**3.7 Quorum:** Fifty-One (51) percent of the voting power shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting.

**3.8** Attendance at regularly scheduled meetings is mandatory for all GEYTF Board Members. Any board Member who misses three (3) or more meetings in a calendar year, excused or unexcused, will automatically lose his or her voting privileges for the remainder of that year and that Board Member will be under review by the Executive Board as to determine his or her fitness to remain a member of the GEYTF Board of Directors. Unexcused attendance will be any meeting in which a GEYTF Board Member does not notify the League Secretary of intent to not be present. No proxy votes or fill-in voice from area accepted at GEYTF Board Meetings.

**3.9** Executive Board members may not head coach any team, unless granted a waiver by two-third (2/3) majority of a quorum of Board Members present at a GEYTF Board Meeting.

**3.10** Board Members wishing to propose new rules or rule changes, additions or amendments for GEYTF By-Laws shall submit their proposals to the GEYTF Board in writing by May 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. All rules passed during the current season will not go into effect until the following year, unless the proposed rule or rules are approved by two-third (2/3) majority of a quorum of Board Members, to become effective immediately. The Executive Board may exceed the May 1<sup>st</sup>. proposal deadline if it is deemed to be in the immediate best interest of the league.

**3.11** It is the intent of GEYTF to be inclusive, and new areas that will be equipped by GEYTF will receive consideration for incorporation with GEYTF under the following requirements:

**1.** Each dependent team within the area will be responsible for attaining a \$ 400.00 sponsorship for their team. Sponsorship must be retained and funds received by the GEYF Board of Directors by July 7<sup>th</sup> of current year.

**2.** Area Representative selected and approved by GEYTF Board of Directors.

**3.** Coaching staff presented to GEYTF Board with applications in full with board and background approval pending.

**4.** There must be a minimum of four teams participating from any proposed area to avoid league scheduling conflicts: (Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior Varsity, and Varsity) divisions.

**3.12** League membership with GEYTF is voluntary and new areas shall be subject to one (1) year probation. After one year of probation, a two-third (2/3) majority vote of a quorum of the Board will admit the area to full membership. The area on probation will have no voting rights. After one (1) year of probation and the area is approved by two-third (2/3) vote, the area will have one league Area Representative with voting rights.

**3.13** The new area and its teams shall adhere to the league's By-Laws, policies, procedures, registration process, area boundaries, and playing rules as approved by the GEYTF Board of Directors.

**3.14 Termination of membership in the league by an area may be affected by:**

**A.** Voluntary withdrawal or resignation; all payments to GEYTF will be forfeited.

**B.** Failure to pay team participation registration payment on or before due date.

**C.** Two-Third (2/3) majority vote of quorum of the Board.

**3.15** The local management and organization of an area is the prerogative of that area and not subject to the league's sanctions as long as said area is acting within league policy and except in situations where appropriate authority presents rules to the board. At such time it will be the decision of the GEYTF Board as to resolution.

**3.16** Any area not abiding by GEYTF league By-Laws and regulations may be placed on probation and shall remain so for a period of not less than (1) one year. At the designated December Board Meeting the GEYTF Board of Directors shall vote whether or not to reinstate that area in good standing and remove from probation. If the GEYTF Board of Directors does not reinstate that area they shall lose all voting privileges for the upcoming year. If after the second year of probation this area still fails to be reinstated their membership will be terminated.

**3.17** All areas participating with GEYTF and receiving the benefit of GEYTF equipping a minimum of (4) four teams from that area will be responsible for attaining a \$ 400.00 sponsorship for their team. Sponsorship must be retained and funds received by GEYTF no later than July 7<sup>th</sup> of current year.

## **Section 4** **Indemnification**

**4.1** For purpose of this Section, agent means any person who is or was a Director, officer, employee or other agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a Director, officer, employee or agent of a foreign or domestic corporation that was a predecessor corporation of the corporation or of another enterprise at the request of such predecessor corporation; proceeding means any threatened, pending or completed action or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative; and expenses include without limitation attorney's fees, and any expenses of establishing a right to indemnification under Subsection 4.4 or 4.5(c) of this Section.

**4.2** Indemnification in Actions by Third Parties. The corporation shall indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any proceeding (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor, an action brought under Section 5233 of the California Corporations Code, or any action brought by the Attorney General for any breach of duty relating to assets held in charitable trust) by reason of the fact that such person is or was an agent of the corporation, against expenses, judgments, fines, settlements, and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred in connection with such proceeding if such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in the best interest of the corporation, and in the case of a criminal proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe the conduct of such person was unlawful. The termination of any proceeding by judgment, order, settlement or conviction or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which the person reasonably believed to be in the best interest of the corporation or that the person had reasonable cause to believe that the person's conduct was unlawful.

**4.3** Indemnification in Actions by or in the Right of the Corporation. The corporation shall indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action by or in the right of the corporation or procure a judgment in its favor, or brought under Section 5233, or brought by the Attorney General for breach of duty relating to assets held in charitable trust, by reason of the fact that such person is or was an agent of the corporation, against expenses actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action if such person acted in good faith, in a manner such person believed to be in the best interest of the corporation, and with such care, including reasonable inquiry, as an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would use under similar circumstances. No indemnification shall be made under this section 4.3.

(a) In respect of any claim, issue, or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation in the performance of such person's duty to the corporation, unless and only to the extent that the court in which such proceeding is or was pending shall determine upon application that, in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for the expenses which such court shall determine.

(b) Of amounts paid in settling or otherwise disposing of a threatened or pending action, with or without court approval.

(c) Of expenses incurred in defending a threatened or pending action that is settled or otherwise disposed of without court approval unless it is settled with the approval of the Attorney General.

**4.4 Indemnification Against Expenses.** To the extent that an agent of the corporation has been successful on the merits in defense of any proceeding referred to in Subsection 4.2 or 4.3 of this Section or in defense of any claim, issue, or matter in the proceeding, the agent shall be indemnified against expenses actually and reasonably incurred by the agent in connection with the proceeding.

**4.5 Required Indemnification.** Except as provided in Subsection 4.4 of this Section, any indemnification under this Section shall be made by the corporation only if authorized in the specific case, upon a determination that indemnification of the agent is proper in the circumstances because the agent has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in Section 4.2 or 4.3 by:

(a) A majority vote of a quorum consisting of Directors who are not parties to such proceeding; or

(b) Approval of the members (Corporations Code section 5034), with the persons to be indemnified not being entitled to vote thereon; or

(c) The court in which such proceeding is or was pending upon application made by the corporation, the agent, or the attorney or other person rendering services in connection with the defense, whether or not such application by the agent, attorney or other person rendering services in connection with the defense, whether or not such application by the agent, attorney or other person is opposed by the corporation.

**4.6 Advance of Expenses.** Expenses incurred in defending any proceeding may be advanced by the corporation prior to the final disposition of such proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the agent to repay such amount unless it shall be determined ultimately that the agent is entitled to be indemnified as authorized in this Section.



**4.7 Other Indemnification.** No provision made by the corporation to indemnify its or its subsidiary's directors or officers for the defense of any proceeding, whether contained in the Articles, Bylaws, a resolution of members or Directors, an agreement or otherwise, shall be valid unless consistent with this Section. Nothing contained in this Section shall affect any right of indemnification to which persons other than Directors and officers of the corporation or any subsidiary of this corporation may be entitled by contract or otherwise.

**4.8 Forms of Indemnification Not Permitted.** No indemnification or advance shall be made under this Section, except as provided in Section 4.4 or 4.5(c) in any circumstance where it appears:

(a) That it would be inconsistent with any condition expressly imposed by a court in approving a settlement.

**4.9 Insurance.** The corporation shall have the power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any agent of the corporation against any liability asserted against or incurred by the agent in such capacity or arising out of the agent's status as such whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify the agent against such liability under the provisions of this subsection; provided, however, that the corporation shall have no power to purchase and maintain such insurance to indemnify any agent of the corporation for a violation of Corporations Code section 5233.

## **SECTION (5)** **RECEIPT, INVESTMENT AND DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS**

**5.1** The Corporation shall receive all monies, other properties, or both monies and properties, transferred to it for the purposes for which the corporation was formed (as shown by the Articles of Incorporation). However, nothing contained herein shall require the Board to accept or receive any money or property of any kind if it shall determine in its discretion that receipt of the money or property of any kind is contrary to the express purposes of the Corporation as shown by the Articles.

**5.2** The Corporation shall hold, manage and disburse any funds or properties received by it from any source in a manner that is consistent with the expressed purposes of this Corporation.

**5.3** No disbursement of Corporation money or property shall be made until it is first approved by the Executive Officers of GEYTF or the Board. However, the Board shall have the authority to appropriate specific sums to fulfill the objects and purposes for which the Corporation was formed and to direct the officers of the Corporation from time to time to make disbursements to implement the appropriations.

**5.4** All checks, drafts, demands for money and notes of the Corporation, and all written contracts of the corporation shall be signed by the officer(s) or agent(s), as the Board may from time to time by resolution designate.

## **Section 6** **Coaches**

**6.1** It is the intent of the GEYTF Board of Directors, in order to create parity, fairness, and strong programs in area and division to approve the best possible selection of head coaches and assistants. GEYTF Board Members and or staff are encouraged to volunteer as youth football and cheer coaches within the league.

Procedures have been established to critique coach's overall league performance of past season, and to interview all coaches before final selection. There will be one (1) head coach per team who is to be assisted by no less than three (3) assistants and no more than six (6) coaches. (7<sup>th</sup> coach must be in the press box or free of sidelines during games.)

**6.2** Head coaches must be a minimum of twenty-one (21) years old and assistant coaches must be a minimum of eighteen (18) years old. All practices and games will always be supervised by a coach of twenty-one (21) years of age. All coaches will submit an application and be subjected to a background check before being interviewed and approval submitted by Board to coach.

**Coaches must not have been convicted of any crime, which cause them to register under Section 290 of the California Penal Code.**

Coaches, Board Members, and or league employees are all subject to a background check. Criminal convictions and or arrests may disqualify an applicant.

**6.3** Head coaches and assistants are to be selected and approved by the Board of Directors at the beginning of each calendar year. Head coaches in existing Division, with tenure, will have their choice of area, with approval of their Area Representative and GEYTF Board. Head coaches with tenure, moving within areas or moving from one Division to another must first indicate at the end of the season on coach's questionnaire, of intent, and must be approved by the Area Representative and GEYTF Board.

**6.3a** Assistant coaches, upon Area Representative and Board of Directors approval, will take over responsibility as head coach once all tenured coaches have been selected and approved for areas. Tenured coaches that have been involved with the area, and have a son/daughter participating with GEYTF have the option of remaining in the area for the rest of his consecutive career upon approval of the Area Representative and Executive Board.

**6.3b** All coaches without tenure with son/daughter and have expressed desire to coach out of area boundaries, must be approved by the Area Representative and Executive Board. Non-tenured coaches with no son/daughter expressing desire to coach out of area boundaries will not be allowed without approval of the Area Representative and Executive Board.

**6.4** All coaches will keep their First Aid and CPR cards current every year. First aid and CPR certification must be submitted during application process. This process must be completed before coach will be allowed to participate with team. It is the responsibility of coaches to schedule and receive these courses on their own accord. Copies of certification by private or other public courses are acceptable, but are the responsibility of the coach to produce this certification.

**6.5** All head coaches and assistants will attend the scheduled football clinics required by GEYTF.

**6.6** The head coach and all assistant coaches are required to know all Federation High School rules and GEYTF modifications. The head coach is responsible to see that all rules and regulations are adhered to and that all team players and personnel are knowledgeable and in compliance with the same. Failure to abide by the rules, regulations, and modifications is just cause for removal of the coach by the Executive Board.

**6.7a** Two (2) coaches from each team may be in the press box or grand stands for the purpose of two-way communications with the coaching staff on the field. Each team may provide their-own radios for two-way communication.

**6.7b** No more than eight (8) non-players may be in the team box during a game. Non-players would include parents designated for mandatory play monitors.

**6.8 Coaches code of conduct:** Each area's coaching staff, under the direction of its Area Representative and respective divisional head coach shall be responsible for training and organizing all four (4) team-coaching staffs. Violations of following ethics will result in a warning. Each violation will be reviewed by the Executive Board of Directors and may result in suspension and or expulsion.

**6.8a Coaches** will adhere to GEYTF Dress Code.

**6.8b** Coaches will emphasize that good athletes are good students and winning is the result of teamwork.

**6.8c** Coaches will emphasize physical and mental conditioning of their players as well as discipline and respect for authority.

**6.8d** Coaches will accept decisions of officials as being fair and called to the best of the officials' ability.

**6.8e** Coaches will not criticize players in front of spectators, nor will they criticize opposing teams, officials, coaches or fans by word or gesture.

**6.8f** Coaches will not allow a player to re-enter a game who has been rendered unconscious, badly bruised or injured to such an extent that further play may jeopardize the player's health. They will always abide by a medical attendant's decision in all matters of injury.

**6.8g** Coaches will refrain from excessive "sideline coaching".

**6.8h** Coaches will be responsible for the conduct and control of team, fans and spectators.

**6.8i** Coaches will not use abusive or profane language.

**6.8j** Coaches will not "pile it on", as the phrase is used when a team gets a command lead and desires to raise the score as high as it can. In these instances, every effort will be made to let all players play.

**6.8k** Coaches will not permit an ineligible player to participate in a practice, scrimmage or game.

**6.8l** Coaches may never instruct nor allow his players to use any method or tactic that might cause excessive or deliberate punishment or abuse to any player on either his or an opposing team and will not incite un-sportsmanlike conduct.

**6.8m** The use of alcohol and/or narcotics by coaches is forbidden at practices, games and meetings at all levels.

**6.8n** Smoking cigarettes, cigars, pipes, or chewing or dipping tobacco in the presence of players at practices, games or on the sidelines by coaches is strictly prohibited.

**6.8o** Uphold all rules and regulations regarding GEYTF.

**6.8p** Violations of these ethics will result in warning and upon review by the Executive Board of Directors may result in suspension and or expulsion.

**6.9** GEYTF is committed to good sportsmanship at all events. Any display of un-sportsmanlike behavior will be dealt with immediately and severely.

**6.10** Coaches will not attend other GEYTF Areas practices.

**6.11** Head coach, assistant coach or participant ejected from a game will be suspended for one week of practice and the following week's game.

Area Representative Supervisor and head coach will contact a member of the Executive Board of Directors for their review. A warning will be issued and upon the Board's review determination of penalties due the ejection, including removal from further participation with the area, team and league activities.

Any further penalties may be based upon the information provided by GEYTF Board Members officials, coaches and parents who are involved or may have witnessed the behavior.

**6.11 The second ejection of a coach:** The coach's conduct will be reviewed by the Executive Board. In the event of a third ejection there will be no review and there will be an immediate expulsion from the GEYTF program.

## **SECTION (7)** **RECRUITMENT, TRY-OUTS AND REGISTRATION**

### **7.1 See GEYTF Participant Try Out Policy.**

**7.2** Recruitment of participants within an area is the sole responsibility of the Area Representative and head coach of each division. Participant must reside (the place where the participant sleeps, eats, bathes, studies, and interacts with his siblings and/or parent(s), guardians, or foster parents) within an area's boundaries, and must provide proof of residency in that area. Upon proper verification, participants involved in a dual family/residence scenario have the option to play in either respective area upon providing appropriate proof of residency at time of registration. Participants attending parochial schools must provide appropriate enrollment documentation to establish program eligibility.

**7.3** All GEYTF prospective parent/participants must pay current league registration fee and complete a registration/contract form and Parental Rule Agreement provided by GEYTF. Prospective parent/participants must provide an original birth certificate for league inspection along with two copies to keep on file. Prospective parent/participants must provide proof of residence via a current utility statement. To ensure proper participant placement, GEYF reserves the right to require prospective parent/participants to provide additional residence, age verification, and in some cases school current enrollment documentation. Any prospective parent/participant who fails to provide league deemed sufficient residence, school enrollment, and age verification can and will be excluded from league participation. In addition, any prospective parent/participant who willfully attempts to circumvent these bylaws will be excluded from league participation.

**7.4** Golden Empire Youth Tackle Football will utilize an Age-Weight Table to determine placement of participant in division: (See attached posted Age & Weight Table)

**7.5** All participants will be notified of league division placement by the GEYTF Executive Board of Directors.

Once head coach has selected participant and received copy of participant's registration forms and payment has been made, he/she is an official member of one of the division teams in his/her area or program. Once a participant has been registered, said participant will not be allowed to change GEYTF division, team, and or area without prior permission from the GEYTF Executive Board.

**7.6** The Executive Board of GEYTF shall administer all divisions and areas.

**7.7** Areas will participate in the GEYTF organization with a freshmen, sophomore, junior varsity and varsity team. Each team will consist of thirty (30) players with no less than twenty (20) players under the direction and control of a head coach and a maximum of six (6) assistant coaches. Any GEYTF team who's roster falls below (20) players, must notify the league office immediately. GEYTF Executive board will determine whether  
A team with a roster consisting of less than (20) players will be able to continue with league play. All teams will adhere to the mandatory play rule.

**7.7a** The Executive Board of Directors will make final determination of areas for assigning players to teams. In the event any team loses a player through injury or other good reason, the Executive Board may, provided all regular eligibility requirements are met, fill the vacancy by selecting a replacement from the area waiting list. Placement of player on a team is subject to Executive Board approval.

**7.7b** GEYTF participants will adhere to pre - specified GEYTF Area Boundaries in accordance with the current High School geographical Boundaries as well as pre-determined GEYTF approved boundaries. GEYTF participants attending parochial schools must adhere to GEYTF participant area placement requirements.

**7.8 Participant Release:** Participants who fail to make a GEYTF Roster via the GEYTF annual try – out process, or are unable to be added to a GEYTF Roster because said participant's team within his or her required GEYTF Boundary or program is full, may for a period of one season play out of area. After completion of said season, each participant must return to his or her original area or program for future consideration. Participants who are allowed to play out of area will be issued a written release from the GEYTF Area or program he or she is being released from. Participants must present said release to any GEYTF program he or she is attempting to participate with.

**7.9** Participants may be released to play out of area by his or her prospective GEYTF Area Representative. GEYTF Area Representatives are neither obligated nor required to release any prospective participant, but may do so on a case by case basis.

**7.10** Participants may be released to play out of area if parent or guardian meets specific High School District employment criteria. (See GEYF out of area HSD employee policy)

## **7.11 Area & Division Recruiting**

**7.11a** If any coach in any division attempts to recruit a player from another area he or she will face disciplinary action, and that action will be determined by the Executive Board up to and including suspension and possible permanent removal from the league.

**7.11b** Any head coach who knowingly has had an ineligible player participate in any practice, scrimmage or game will be subjected to disciplinary action as determined by the Executive Board.

**7.11c** Once school has let out for the summer, all teams are allowed to practice a maximum of 5 2 ½ hours practices in a (7) seven day period.

**7.11d** Football equipment will be issued in early to mid July of each season and upon issuance of equipment, the following equipment guidelines must be met.

**7.12** The first week of practice must be devoted to conditioning for all players. During this conditioning period, no protective football gear may be worn except for helmets and mouthpieces. A maximum of 5 (2) hour practices are allowed during the first week.

**7.13** The second week of practice participants are allowed to wear full gear and must be gradually and safely introduced to full contact. All participants must have completed (5) days in helmets only prior to advancing to full gear and contact. Participants must have completed a minimum of (10) ten full gear contact practices prior to participating in any one league approved scrimmage and or game.

**7.14** Second, third and fourth weeks of practice is a maximum of five 5 – (2) hour practices in a seven (7) day period. Seven-day period is Sunday to Sunday.

**7.15** After school starts and during the regular/post season, practice for all divisions will be limited to three (3) two hour practices in a seven (7) day period.

**7.16** As of March 1<sup>st</sup> of each season all teams in each division may initiate get-togethers for the purpose of try-outs, recruiting, and readying their teams for the upcoming season.

**7.17** Get-togethers will not be mandatory for area-participants and may only be two (2) hours in length, no more than (3) three times in a (7) seven day period. Area coaches must be in attendance, and no one athlete may participate in get-togethers until a waiver, release agreement and authorization has been signed by parent/guardian of participant. Coaches will keep such agreements on hand at all times.

**7.18** Practice sessions are considered to be a gathering of any number of players and a coach where the following takes place: chalk talk, skull session, group conditioning, play run through with or without equipment, and/or any scrimmage with or without another team. Viewing of game film after a game is not considered a practice.

**7.19** No one scrimmage will be allowed before the third week of full contact practices and will be allowed with the approval of the League Secretary and prospective Area Representative Supervisors. No team may scrimmage more than one (1) time in a seven (7) day period not to exceed more than two (2) hours in length. Teams may have other scrimmages during the pre - season, but only with other GEYTF teams within their division and with league pre approval.

At no time will a GEYTF team scrimmage or play a game against a team outside of their own division and or league. Any head coach and or assistant coach allowing his or her team to participate in an out of division or league game or scrimmage, will face league disciplinary action up to and including possible suspension and or immediate permanent removal from the league. The League Secretary and Area Representative Supervisors must be notified by each Area Representative a minimum of (48) forty eight hours in advance of any one scrimmage.

**7.20 Consumption of liquids:** Heat prostration is one of the primary concerns of GEYTF and accordingly, frequent water breaks for players will be given in accordance with heat, humidity, and level of activity. Hydrate your players!! (See extreme heat policy)

**7.21** A first aid kit must be on the field/sideline of every GEYTF game, scrimmage, practice, or get – together.

**7.22** No drill may be used where a group of players are instructed or encouraged to administer physical abuse or excessive contact upon any one player and or players. Only safe controlled contact or non-contact drills are to be utilized by GEYTF coaches. Safety must come first in all GEYTF football instruction.

**7.23** No player will be allowed to participate in any contact practice until properly equipped by GEYTF or area football program.

**7.24** Any participant under the direct care of a physician for either a pre existing medical condition and or injury resulting from participation in a GEYTF practice, game, or event, must provide a full medical release in writing to the league office prior to further participation in any and all GEYTF events.

**7.25** It is the responsibility of each team’s head coach to report any and all participant injuries as they occur. Head coaches must complete a GEYTF Injury Report and submit that report to his or her respective Area Representative within (24) twenty – four hours of the injury. Injuries considered to be serious in nature must be reported to the league office immediately.



## Section 8 Equipment

**8.0** All GEYTF Areas participating with and utilizing GEYTF equipment are responsible for assisting the League Athletic Director in readying area's equipment for play. GEYTF Area Representatives and coaches will be responsible for participant's equipment once issued. Responsibility includes preparation, distribution, and collection of equipment. Head coaches select participants; therefore head coach will return equipment immediately if participant resigns or is removed from team, **not at the end of the season.**

**8.1** GEYTF equipment must be properly fitted to each individual player by authorized GEYTF staff only. No equipment will be issued without signed GEYTF Equipment Requisition Form. GEYTF Requisition form must be signed by head coach or parent/guardian. No equipment will be issued without GEYTF Physician's Consent to Participate form on file. No equipment will be issued prior to participant registration fee collected in full.

**8.2** Equipment required for players participating in contact football.

**Helmet** issued and fitted by approved GEYTF staff.

**Chinstrap** – 2 & 4 point hook up – soft or hard cup style.

**Colored mouthpiece:** All mouthpieces with the exception of Orthodontist issued mouthpieces, must not be clear in color and must be securely attached to the facemask of his or her helmet.

**Shoulder pads** fitted by approved GEYTF staff.

**Seven piece pad set including** (2) two hip pads, (2) two knee pads, (2) two thigh pads, and (1) one tail pad. (Or integrated pant as substitute)

**Belt with "D" ring buckle.**

**Cleats:** Molded non-detachable rubber sole football cleats are acceptable. Detachable regulation cleats not to exceed ½ inch measured from the tip of the cleat to the sole of the shoe are acceptable. **According to NFSHSA Rulebook, under rule 1-5-1 states: there shall not be any metal-tipped cleats whatsoever.** GEYTF coaches are required to routinely check his or her player's cleats to ensure no "metal is exposed".

Clear Helmet shields only can be worn by GEYTF participants.

Only league approved helmet decals/stickers and awards can be utilized within GEYTF. League deemed inappropriate decals/stickers and awards will not be allowed.

**Example:** Skull and crossbones are not acceptable decals for use on GEYTF helmets.

## Section 9 Teams & Conferences

**9.0** GEYTF areas will form two (2) conferences for the 2016 football season.

## Eastern Conference

**Far North Rockets**  
**Fighting Irish**  
**Far East Titans**  
**Eastern Sabers**  
**Pride**  
**North East Knights**  
**G.V. Bull Pups**  
**Central Football**  
**Tehachapi Tomahawks**  
**Delano Trojans**

## Western Conference

**Far West Freedom**  
**Fighting Irish**  
**Northwest Cardinals**  
**South West Football**  
**Shafter Gladiators**  
**Southeast Wolverines**  
**Mid West Spartans**  
**Talons**  
**Taft Wildcatters**  
**Wasco Bengals**

**9.1** Southern Conference Rookie, Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior Varsity, and Varsity teams will play nine (9) regular season conference games when applicable. Northern Conference Rookie, Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior Varsity, and Varsity teams will play nine (9) regular season conference games when applicable. Conference byes may occur when applicable. Post season seeding will be determined by the following criteria and may be subject to change.

Phase (1) Conference Record

Phase (2) Head to Head

Phase (3) Overall Record (n/a for unbalanced schedule)

Phase (4) Points Allowed in Conference

Phase (5) Points Scored in Conference

Phase (6) Coin Toss

(Rookie Division may differ when applicable.)

(GEYF Reserves the right to determine post season seeding at its own discretion)

Phase (1)

Best in – Conference Record

**In the event of a tie record:**

Phase (2) Head to Head

Phase (3) In the event of a multiple tie with all teams in division beating each other respectively and having the same in conference record, GEYTF will look at overall record including out of conference games if applicable. The team or teams with the best overall record including out of conference play if applicable, will receive the higher seed.

Phase (4) If all respective teams have identical overall records and have beaten each other respectively, we will go to the most points allowed in Conference scenario. The team and or teams that have allowed the fewest points scored in conference will receive the higher seed.

Phase (5) If all respective teams have identical overall records and have beaten each other respectively and have all allowed the same points in conference we will go to the most points scored offensively in conference scenario.

The team and or teams that have scored the most points offensively in conference will receive the higher seed.

Phase (6) if phase 1 through 5 cannot break the tie, then GEYTF will go to a multi – party coin toss with the odd man out.

GEYTF teams in all divisions seeded one (1) through four (4) will have to opportunity to advance through post season play. The First round consisting of seed four (4) playing seed (1) and seed three (3) playing seed (2). GEYTF teams seeded five (5) through seven (7) will play cross-conference consolation games against equally seeded teams. In the event of an unbalanced league schedule, (8) seeded teams in each division will not participate in post season play. Winners of “cross-conference” consolation games **will not** have the opportunity to advance. GEYTF teams seeded one (1) through four (4) winning first round post season games will advance to the League Conference Championship. Conference Champions in all GEYTF divisions will advance to GEYTF League Championship. Winners of each division will be declared that season’s League Champion.

## 9.2 GEYTF All Area Selection Team. (See 2016 All Area Policy)

GEYTF **Rookie** & Freshmen coaching staffs are asked to select (4) of their own players from each team to be named as All Area Selection Players. The (4) players selected will receive an All Area Selection Medal at half time of the **Varsity** All Area Selection Game. The following criteria should be used in selecting All Area Players. Players repeating 8<sup>th</sup> grade and have participated in the Varsity All Area Game in prior year are ineligible).

**Total of (4) players - (2) Skill players - (2) Linemen**

Golden Empire **Varsity, Junior Varsity, Sophomores** coaching staffs are asked to select players to participate in the Annual GEYTF All Area Selection games.

The following criteria should be used in selecting All Area Players.

The selection process for both **conferences** is as follows:

(2) Skill players

(2) Linemen

Total of (4) players

(2) Unofficial alternates should be named in the event a player and or players cannot fulfill his or her league obligations.

## **Eastern Conference Team Total (40) players**

The selection process for both **conferences** is as follows:

(2) Skill players

(2) Linemen

Total of (4) players

(2) Unofficial alternates should be named in the event a player and or players cannot fulfill his or her league obligations.

## **Southern Conference Team Total (40) players**

### **All Area Coaching Selection Process:**

The Head Coaches of **Conference Runner -up Teams** will be selected as the Head Coaches of the All Area Selection Teams. In the event that the Head Coach and or coaches from the Conference Runner – up Teams are unable to fulfill their league obligations, the league will delegate that responsibility.

The All Area Selection coaching staff will be comprised of the following.

**Head Coach** – Conference Runner – up

**Assistant Coaches** – The Head Coach from each Conference team will serve as assistant coaches on the All Area Selection team. In the event that the Head Coach from a prospective team is unable to fulfill his league obligation, he may choose one of his assistants to represent his staff. In the event that a team is unable to provide at least one coach for this event, the All Area Selection Team Head coach may utilize one of his own assistants.

Sportsmanship: All coaches and players are expected to display a high level of sportsmanship for this event. All Area Selection assistant coaches are expected to be given the true opportunity to coach the players in this event and **must be allowed to contribute.**

## **Practice time & Locations:**

Due to the extra time needed to get players acclimated to new coaches and systems, All Area Teams are allowed to have **(4) 2.5** hour practices in the week preceding the game.

No practice will be allowed prior to the week preceding the event.

The Practice location will be determined by the All Area Selection Team Head Coach, and it is the responsibility of that Head Coach to provide a league approved appropriate practice location for the event.

**Captains:** One representative from each prospective All Area Team will represent his or her team as a team Captain.

**MPR:** The GEYF Mandatory Play Rule will be in effect for this event with all participants playing a league varsity minimum of (5) plays. (see stand alone revised policy).

**9.3 Rosters:** GEYTF team rosters in all divisions will not exceed thirty (30) participants without Executive Board approval with exception of All Area Game. Any time a GEYTF team's roster falls below twenty participants, it is the responsibility of that team's head coach and respective Area Representative to notify the league office.

**9.4 Benching:** GEYTF Head Coaches may bench from a game or practice and or reduce participants playing time for player misconduct, attendance, or improper dress. The respective GEYTF Area Representative must be notified of said coaches' decision and must be noted on both practice roll roster and game MPR sheet.

**9.5** GEYTF coaching personnel shall consist of one (1) head coach and no less than three (3) assistants and no more than a total of five (5) assistants. All GEYTF coaches must be approved by the Board, have a GEYTF application on file, and pass a background check. All GEYTF coaches must be First Aid and CPR certified. Proof of certification must be provided to the league office prior to coaching.

**9.6** At no time shall a GEYF coach receive payment in cash or hire for payment in cash or kind a private "tutor" to instruct players for current or GEYF future competition.

**9.7** Participants on each team will be certified on or before GEYTF'S annual Kick-Off Classic. It will be the responsibility of all GEYTF head coaches to maintain and have in his or her possession at all times, a league participant registration book. The GEYTF Participant Registration Book will be comprised of the following documentation. Participant registration form with required parental/guardian signature, current official copy of participant's birth certificate with board initialed league seal and signature, current participant physical form signed by appropriate medical staff. Any head coach who fails to provide "League Participant Registration Book" with appropriate documentation prior to the start of any one league game, may receive a forfeit.

All league fees must be paid prior to procurement of GEYTF football equipment. If participant fails to fulfill contract once equipment has been issued, and elects not to participate with GEYTF, the League Registration fees will be non-refundable.

## **Section 10** **Scheduling of Games**

**10.1** All scheduling of games will be done by the League's Executive Director to ensure parity, equality, and protection for GEYTF teams. GEYTF will schedule all pre season, regular season, and post season games and game sites with league need being first priority. Post season team seeding will not dictate host site location and or home or away opponent placement. GEYTF reserves the right to schedule all GEYTF events based on overall league need. There will be no game schedule protests. In the event a game is stopped for any reason prior to its normal conclusion without the ability to be replayed, GEYTF Executive Board will have discretion as to who to award the victory based on but not limited to factors such as score when game was stopped. GEYTF will have the ability to award a draw in the event the game was tied when stoppage occurred but is not required to do so. Final outcome can and will be determined by GEYTF Executive Board in such event, and will do so without protest. Games cancelled for any reason will also fall under the complete discretion of The GEYTF Executive Board as to determine final outcome, and will do so without protest.

**10.2** Admission costs for all GEYTF games will be preset before season and will be consistent throughout the league. All games played on regulation football fields will require admission fee.

**10.3** Host area will be responsible for admission gate management. Game officials, clock operators, and EMT's will be paid out of gate revenue.

**10.4** The Mandatory Play Rule will be in effect for all regular, post season, and championship games. Teams that participate in bowl games are expected to play their players but will not be bound by the League's MPR Policy with the exception of the GEYTF All Area Game.

**10.5** The League's excessive scoring margin (**24 point rule**) will be in effect for all regular, post-season, and championship games.

## **Section 11** **Games and Playing Rules**

**11.1** Playing Rules: The rules for playing football in the GEYTF League will be the current published rules of the NFSHSA. GEYTF may modify these rules by two third (2/3) majority vote of quorum of the Board.

**11.2** Length of quarters: all teams will play regulation ten (10) minute quarters. (Rookie Division (8) Minute Quarters (New clock rules).

**11.3** Intermission between quarters will be one (1) minute, and between halves ten (10) minutes.

**11.4** Sophomore, Junior Varsity, and Varsity divisions will be allowed a maximum of three (3) time outs per half. Freshmen and Rookie divisions will be allowed a maximum of four (4) time outs per half. (See Rookie Coaching Policy for on-field coach placement.)

**11.5 Excessive Point Margin:** if either team scores, or the trailing team is twenty-four (24) or more points behind, the team that is leading shall kick off from their own twenty (20) yard line. (Freshmen division will have ball placed at the fifty (50) yard line.) Normal placement of ball in Rookie and Freshmen games is at the thirty (30) yard line. The leading team is not allowed to pass the ball with the exception of passes thrown behind the line of scrimmage.

**11.6** If the leading team while twenty-four (24) points or more ahead, passes the ball, they shall turn the ball over to the other team on that plays initial line of scrimmage. This is not a time for the team that is leading by twenty-four points or more to play for complete domination. Any coach, who attempts to run up the score, will face disciplinary action by the GEYTF Executive Board up to and including suspension and or removal from the league.

**11.7** Team leading by twenty-four points (24) points or more cannot call time out in the last five minutes of the game.

### **11.8 Scoring:**

<b>A.</b> Touchdown	6 points
<b>B.</b> Field goal	3 points
<b>C.</b> Safety	2 points
<b>D.</b> PAT by kick	2 points (Junior Varsity & Varsity)
<b>E.</b> PAT by run or pass	1 point (Junior Varsity & Varsity)
<b>F.</b> PAT by run or pass	Rookie, Freshmen & Sophomore Divisions 1 yard line = 1 point 3 yard line = 2 points

**11.9** Conduct toward game officials: The head coach, his or her staff, participants, parents, and spectators must accept the decisions of the game officials as being fair and called to the best of their ability. GEYTF coaches in all divisions are encouraged to submit a Referee Evaluation form at the completion of each GEYTF game. Forms may be acquired through each coach Area Representative. (Refer to GEYTF Coaches Code of Conduct for disciplinary rules for coaches).

**11.10** With the exception of the Rookie Division and when applicable, there will be no ties in regular season, post season, championships, and or bowl games. All games that end in a tie score will have to be broken by the ten (10) yard Tiebreaker as outlined in the NFSHSA current rulebook. Ten (10) yard tiebreaker will continue until a team has won. *(Rookie division can and will end in a tie when applicable. Post season seeding, and or game outcome is at the discretion of the league up to and including a "Coin Toss Process within the Rookie Division if applicable.*

**11.11** Game scores will be turned into Area Representatives who will contact each conference respective “Coach At Large” and report those scores. League rankings and scores will be supplied to coaches upon request as well as being posted on the GEYTF Website ([WWW.GEYF.ORG](http://WWW.GEYF.ORG)). It will be the responsibility of each conference Coach At Large to track league scores and rankings as well as report those scores and rankings to the GEYTF Webmaster and local media.

**11.12** Point spread will only be used as it applies to “post season” seeding phase (4) & (5).see post season seeding criteria page (17).

**11.13** Official time out for injured player

**11.13a** In all cases, the injured player must leave the field for a minimum of one (1) play. The team with injured player cannot take a charged time out to allow the player to remain in the game.

**11.13b** For an obviously fake injury, the officials will first warn the head coach. Second occurrence of fake injury, official may penalize for delay of game, unless flagrant when the penalty will be unsportsmanlike conduct.

**11.14** With the exception of adult play monitors, no unauthorized persons without proper GEYTF League issued credentials will be allowed on the sidelines of any GEYTF game. No pets will be allowed on GEYTF sidelines at any time.

**11.15** No member of any team or its staff may go beyond the twenty-five (25) yard line along the sidelines. Only three (3) coaches may be in the area between the sidelines and the six (6) feet team boundary.

**11.16 Behavior from the sidelines:** No individual, be it Board Member, coach, player, guest or employee shall make negative verbal exchanges with personnel from the opposing team and or game officials. All verbal remarks from the sidelines during a game can only be directed to one’s own team. Remarks will be limited to coaching instructions and positive reinforcement and cheers for the efforts of one’s own team.

**11.17** No member of a team, coach, parent, and or guest may go the opposing team’s side of the field for the purpose of stealing play calls or signaling back to his or her team.

**11.18** Suspension or expulsion from the league will be incurred if no attempt from the head coach and or staff is made to correct and sideline misconduct.

**11.19** There are no game protests.



## **SECTION 12**

### **GAME DAY REQUIREMENTS**

**12.1** A yardage chain and down marker will be provided by the hosting area. The yardage chain and down marker will be maintained and ran by the home team. It will be the responsibility of each home team regardless of site to properly man both yardage chain and down marker. High school age students and above are recommended for chain crew.

**12.2** Team's players, coaches and parents are responsible for cleaning up trash on their sideline after the game.

**12.3** Host site area will be responsible for providing game announcer. Cost for that game announcer will also be the responsibility of host area.

**12.4** Crowd control is the responsibility of both the home and visiting coaches and Area Representatives.

**12.5** The head coach is directly responsible for the conduct of his team's spectators.

**12.6** A qualified medical Para-professional (EMT) must be in attendance at all GEYTF games. GEYTF will assign an EMT for each game with the exception of independent areas who provide their own league pre approved EMT. Independent areas may elect to have GEYTF provide an EMT but will be responsible for payment of EMT.

## **Section 13**

### **Weigh-Ins & Mandatory Play Roster**

**13.1** All GEYTF participants must meet pre-game weight requirements. (*See GEYTF Age & Weight Chart.*)

**13.1a** Head coach, upon request must present to apposing head coach and or Area Representative/Board Member GEYTF Participant Registration Book. The GEYTF Participant Registration Book will be comprised of the following documentation. Participant registration form with required parental/guardian signature. Current official copy of participant's birth certificate with league seal and signature. Current participant physical form signed by appropriate medical staff. The GEYTF Participant Registration Book must be presented fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of each game. Failure to provide the GEYTF Participant Book prior to the start of the game may result in forfeit for the team in question.

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**13.1b** All GEYTF participants will go through the weigh-in process with the exception of the Rookie & Freshmen Division. (Rookie, Freshmen, Sophomore, and Junior Varsity Participants may not exceed 250 lbs. Varsity Participants may not exceed 275 lbs.

**13. 1c** All official league weigh-ins will be conducted fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of every game.

**13. 1d** Participant has the option of weighing in with or without football gear, but at no time will a participant weigh in without clothing or inappropriate attire.

**13.1e** Participant must remain below or at the maximum weight allowed per division for the entire season. (**No weakly additional weight allowance**).

**13. 1f** Weigh-Ins will be conducted by GEYTF Area Representatives and or Board Members in good standing with the presence of each team’s head coach.

**13. 1g** Participants not present at time of official league weigh - in, will be given the option of weighing in at half-time in the presence of each team’s head coach and Area Representative. Said player will not be allowed to participate until the second half of the game and only after proper weigh in requirements are met. Participants who are present at the initial weigh - in and do not meet initial league weigh - in requirements, will not be allowed to re-weigh at half-time nor participate.

**13. 1h** If at time of official weigh-in, a participant does not meet the league divisional weight requirement, he or she will not be able to participate in that day’s game. There will be no predetermination weigh – ins. Furthermore, coaches and or Board Members will have no discretion in the weigh in process and anyone attempting to circumvent this policy will face Board discipline up to and including possible suspension and or removal from the league.

**13. 1i** At no time will a coach, Board Member, parent and or spectator encourage a GEYTF participant to unsafely gain or lose weight in an attempt to meet GEYTF divisional weight requirements. GEYTF weigh – in areas and or game sites, are not appropriate places to condition athletes. GEYTF participants arriving at that day’s game site will not be allowed to condition, “work out”, etc in an attempt to make weight for his or her prospective game.

**13. 1k** It is the responsibility of Area Representatives/Board Members and head coaches to ensure weigh-in area is free of spectators and or parents at all times.

**Section 14**  
**Mandatory Play Rule**

**14.1** All four GEYTF divisions will play under the “mandatory play rule” (hereinafter referred to as “MPR”).

**14.2** The number of required plays in the rookie, freshmen, sophomore, and junior varsity division is ten (10). Varsity division is five (5) plays.

**14.3** Each GEYTF team shall be responsible for utilizing a **league issued MPR form** for the purpose of tracking participant's plays and or inactivity during the course of any GEYTF game. Only GEYTF league issued MPR forms are to be used. At no time shall the league issued MPR form be altered and or simulated in any way. The league issued MPR form is an **“official document”** and must remain in its original form.

**14.4** Each league issued MPR form will list each player by name and numerical jersey order. All league issued MPR forms will be signed by adult play monitor, head coach, and GEYTF Board Member when compliance with MPR is completed or at the end of the game.

**14.5 All GEYTF participants will play under the MPR except for the following.**

**14.5a** Player injured or under disciplinary rule by head coach or league: Playing time will be determined by head coach and must be noted on back of MPR form as well as communicated to each teams opposing head coach prior to the start of each game.

**14.5b** Player overweight in Rookie, freshmen, sophomore, junior varsity, and varsity divisions.

**14.6** Each team shall provide one (1) adult mandatory play monitor for each game. The mandatory play monitor must use the league issued MPR form signed by the teams head coach. With the exception of ineligible players, the MPR player “check-off” section will remain blank until official play has started. **NO PLAYS WILL BE MARKED OFF UNTIL EXECUTED.**

**14.7** Any team not having an adult play monitor to perform the MPR roster duty, will provide an assistant coach to perform those duties. Assistant coach will not perform any coaching duties until the MPR process has been completed.

**14.8** All league MPR forms must be signed and all appropriate parties in agreement before game can be determined to have a final outcome.

**14.9** Penalty for failure to meet MPR rule requirements: Any team that fails to play all its players the minimum required plays in a game, game will be counted as a forfeit-loss for the team that failed to meet MPR rule requirements. The MPR form will be annotated and the league will be notified immediately. A second violation will result in the same penalty and will result in the head coach and or assistants being removed from the league.

**14. 10** “Required play”: a required play from the line of scrimmage with or without penalty. All special team plays with or without penalty are considered a “required play”.

**Section 15**  
**Games Fields & Jerseys**

**15.1** There is no required number sequencing for GEYTF game jerseys. Players may participate at any position regardless of jersey number.

**15.2** At no time while in GEYTF game play will multiple players on the same team and game field utilize a game jersey with the same number. (GEYTF reserves the right to modify this rule for special events).

**15.3** GEYTF game jerseys must be numbered numerically from one (1) to ninety-nine (99) with single or double digit numbers being visible at all times.

**15.4** All GEYTF games will be played on league approved regulation football fields. GEYTF scrimmages and or practices may be conducted on regulation league approved or non regulation league approved game or practice football fields.

**Section 16**  
**Punting**

**16.1** Punts must be snapped in all divisions. The Rookie and Freshmen kicking team cannot leave the line of scrimmage until the ball is kicked. The Rookie and Freshmen receiving team (defense) must have seven (7) players on the line of scrimmage at time of punt and cannot “rush” the punter. Clock will be stopped until the both teams are ready to execute and receive the punt

**16.2** Sophomore, junior varsity, and varsity punting rules are in accordance with NFSHSA rules.

**Section 17**  
**Game Officials**

**17.1 Minimum game referees:** a minimum of three (3) GEYTF approved game qualified officials are required for all divisions. (Rookie Division may utilize less than (4) Game Officials).

**17.2** A minimum of four (4) GEYTF approved game qualified officials are required for post-season play-offs, championship and bowl games. GEYTF may elect to use five (5) game qualified officials for post season play. (Rookie Division may utilize less than (4) Game Officials).

**17.3** All officials must be from a GEYTF approved officials association or selected by the league.

**Section 18**  
**Complaints and Protests**

**18.1** There are no protests.

**18.2** A complaint may be filed against any adult or child who breaks or abuses any rules and or philosophies designed for common good of youth football by GEYTF.

**18.3** Complaints must be made in writing within seventy-two hours of alleged act and must be filed with the league office. The person filing the complaint must sign the complaint and include all pertinent information including names and contact information of all witnesses.

**Section 19**  
**Certificate of Secretary**

I, the undersigned, certify that I am the presently elected and or acting Secretary of Golden Empire Youth Tackle Football, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation, and the above By-Laws, consisting of twenty-nine (29) pages, are the By-Laws of this corporation as adopted by the Board on \_\_\_\_\_, 2016, and they have not been amended or modified since that date.

Executed on June 1, 2016, at Bakersfield, CA

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GEYTF – Secretary