

GREATWOOD PACKERS

BY-LAWS and RULES & REGULATIONS

February 2010



NFL Youth

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GREATWOOD PACKERS BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of the organization is the Greatwood Packers, which is a franchise within the Fort Bend Youth Football League (FBYFL).

ARTICLE II – MISSION & VALUES

- A) The Greatwood Packers is a non-profit, tax exempt corporation organized exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code.
- B) Franchise Mission: Develop life skills for youths and build community pride & spirit through a competitive youth football franchise.
- C) Franchise Values: Participants of the franchise including all parents, fans, players, coaches, board members, and volunteers are responsible for acting in accordance with the franchise's values. The franchise requires all participants to always:
 - 1. Abide by the Fort Bend Youth Football League rules and the franchise by-laws.
 - 2. Act with absolute integrity.
 - 3. Do what is in the best interest of the greater good of the franchise – and never compromise the greater good for an individual or small group.
 - 4. Be fiscally responsible.
 - 5. Put academics ahead of football.
 - 6. Be aware of participant safety.
 - 7. Instill a winning mindset and be determined to win while never violating the franchise's values.
 - 8. Honor the franchise and the game of football by demonstrating respect to everyone involved including referees, competitors, parents, coaches, board members, volunteers, fans, and all others.
 - 9. Be a positive role model and lead the youths of the franchise in a way that demonstrates honesty, loyalty, discipline, respect, self-confidence, and good sportsmanship so they may grow to become respected and productive citizens.
 - 10. Constructively challenge youths to learn, work hard, have fun, and accomplish more than they thought they could
 - 11. Participate in a manner that builds individual pride, team pride, and community spirit.
- D) The principal objective of the organization is to provide supervised competitive contact football and cheerleading programs that are safe, enjoyable, educational and challenging to the youth of our community. The organization will collect all necessary fees and costs associated with this purpose on a non-profit basis. The organization is entitled to accept donations of money, property and equipment to further its purpose.
- E) Additional objectives of the organization are to instill in the community children the practice of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, discipline, self-confidence and respect for authority, so they may grow to become decent, respected and productive citizens. To achieve this objective, the organization will provide a supervised program under the rules and regulations of the FBYFL.
- F) The attainment of exceptional athletic skill and the winning of games, although encouraged given that we participate in a competitive football league, shall be secondary to the main purposes and objectives stated above.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

- A) The Greatwood Packers organization is open to the public however its membership is limited given that the league rules require a minimum play threshold be met for football players at all levels. The organization primarily focuses its

membership efforts within the Greatwood, Tara, Canyon Gate and surrounding communities. The following are membership classifications, none of which have voting rights within the organization:

- **Player/Cheer Members** – Any candidate meeting the requirements of the FBYFL and approved to join the Packers organization through the Packers registration process. These members shall have no rights, duties or obligations in the management or in the property of the organization. Younger siblings of current player/cheer members who are interested in joining the Packers are given consideration due to their older sibling being a legacy participant however there is not a membership entitlement for siblings.
- **Regular Members** – Parents or legal guardians of the Player/Cheer Members will become regular members upon payment of their respective player/cheer member’s registration in full.
- **Associate Members** – Any person may be elected as an Associate Member (this includes coaches and assistants that are not Regular Members or other appointed persons) by the unanimous vote of all officers present at any duly held meeting of the Executive Committee.

B) The above membership classes are valid for each football “season.” The football season typically begins in the summer of each calendar year and ends in November or December of the same calendar year. Membership to the organization must be renewed each football season.

C) Any class of membership may be terminated by resignation or action taken by the Executive Committee at a duly constituted board meeting whereby the member has been notified of such meeting in advance, informed of the general nature of the infraction(s) or concern(s) and given the opportunity to appear at the meeting to respond to the alleged infraction(s) or concern(s). Membership may be suspended or terminated for conduct that is in opposition to the stated objectives of the organization, for violating any of the applicable “codes of conduct,” and for violating the by-laws and/or the rules and regulations of the organization or of the FBYFL. Membership can be suspended or terminated by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee members present at the meeting. A quorum of Executive Committee members must be present before a vote can take place.

D) Fees for Regular Members may be fixed at such amount as the Executive Committee shall determine prior to the beginning of any membership period. These fees are determined based on the required cost to successfully operate the organization. In special circumstances, a full or partial refund may be provided if a participant is unable to begin the season after monies have been paid. Once the organization orders a participant’s uniform, the participant will not receive a refund.

ARTICLE IV – ANNUAL MEETINGS

The Annual meeting of the Regular and Associate Members of the Greatwood Packers should be held upon the conclusion of the season, and before March 31 of the following year, each year for the purpose of elections of the Executive Committee, receiving reports and the transaction of any business that may come before the meeting. Regular and Associate Members shall receive written notice of the Annual meeting at least fourteen (14) calendar days in advance.

ARTICLE V – GOVERNING BODY

A) The Executive Committee, also known as the “Board,” is the governing body of the Greatwood Packers and consists of the following voting members: President, Vice President, Communications Director, Treasurer, Athletic Director, Cheer Director, Director of Football Operations, Field Maintenance Director, Fundraising Director, Team Mom Director, Asset Management Director, and Concessions/Events Coordinator. The management of properties and affairs of the Greatwood Packers shall be vested in these persons. The Board, collectively and as individual members, is responsible for demonstrating proper leadership of the organization. The Board is responsible for ensuring the culture of the organization is a positive one in alignment with the organization’s mission and values.

The duties of each Executive Committee member shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

President:

- Has overall responsibility for the organization;
- Ensures the laws of the Fort Bend Youth Football League are abided by all Packers participants;
- Responsible for leading the organization in alignment with its mission and values;
- Responsible for progressing the organization forward and making it more sustainable year-over-year;
- Ensures the Executive Committee is aware of, and fulfills, their individual and collective governance responsibilities;
- Presides over meetings, proposes policies and monitors the organization's performance;
- Conducts the external affairs of the organization and represents the organization at league meetings;
- Investigates complaints, irregularities and conditions detrimental to the organization and reports to the Executive Committee or Regular Members as circumstances warrant;
- With the assistance of the Treasurer, prepares and submits an annual budget to the Executive and Operating Committees and is responsible for the proper execution thereof;
- With the assistance of the Vice President, Athletic and Cheer Directors, examines the applications and supporting age and grade documentation of every player and cheer candidate in order to certify eligibility;
- Is accountable to the Regular Members as defined by Article III;
- Serves as ex-officio member to all Operating Committees;
- Assigns duties to Board members, as necessary, breaks any tie votes, and countersigns any orders and checks when necessary; Is authorized to take prudent and reasonable action in circumstances not covered with these by-laws;
- Responsible for proper communication on behalf of the Packers organization;
- Responsible for representing the Packers with external parties (eg, League and franchise officials, LCISD officials, etc) ; and
- Cannot be an assistant or head coach.

Vice President:

- Provided he/she is authorized by the President or Executive Committee to act, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President;
- Responsible for all insurance matters (coverage, claims, forms, etc.);
- With the assistance of the President bids, negotiates and awards contracts to vendors;
- Performs duties as delegated by the President;
- Serves as ex-officio member to Fundraising and Sponsorship Committee;
- Responsible for proper communication on behalf of the Packers organization;
- Responsible for representing the Packers with external parties (eg, League and franchise officials, LCISD officials, etc) ;
- Represents the organization at league meetings as required; and
- Cannot be an assistant or head coach.

Communications Director:

- Responsible for recording the activities of the Greatwood Packers and maintains appropriate files, mailing lists and necessary records;
- Maintains a list of all Regular, Associate, Executive and Operating Committee Members and gives notice of all meetings;
- Keeps the minutes of the meetings that include at a minimum: date, time, location, list of those present and absent, list of items discussed, list of reports presented and motions presented;
- Signs the final approved minutes, distributes as required and maintains a copy in the record book;
- Notifies Regular, Associate, Executive and Operating committee members of their election or appointment;
- Responsible for proper communication on behalf of the Packers organization;
- Maintains the website with timely and accurate information;
- Responsible for representing the Packers with external parties as required (eg, League and franchise officials, LCISD officials, etc); and
- Represents the organization at league meetings as required.

Treasurer:

- Receives all moneys and securities, and deposits same in a depository approved by the Executive Committee;
- Keeps records for the receipt and disbursement of all moneys and securities and approves all payments from allotted funds;
- Maintains a policy to ensure moneys given to the organization are deposited in the approved depository during the same week received;
- With the President, develops financial policy and procedures for Executive Committee approval;
- Prepares an annual budget, under the direction of the President, for submission to the Membership at the annual meeting;
- Submits all required tax filings to the proper governmental agencies;
- Calls for an emergency meeting of the Board to determine appropriate financial actions if the organization's cash-on-hand balance is below \$10,000 and whereby pending accounts receivables will not result in a minimum balance of \$10,000;
- Responsible for proper communication on behalf of the Packers organization;
- Responsible for representing the Packers with external parties as required (eg, League and franchise officials, LCISD officials, etc); and
- Represents the organization at league meetings as required.

Athletic (AD) and Cheer Directors (CD):

- Responsible for appointing head and assistant coaches each year, AD for football and CD for Cheer ;
- AD is responsible for appointing assistant ADs at each level;
- Develop strategies, arrange clinics/camps and work with coaches to enhance their knowledge on items such as safety, rules and effective coaching methods;
- Responsible for addressing and resolving any complaints of all Regular Members/Player Members or other inquiries concerning other franchises within the FBYFL;
- Receive and review applications and related documents for player and cheer participants and assist the President and Vice President in checking for completeness, accuracy and appropriate classification;
- Prepare for the President's signature and submission to the involved league, participant rosters;
- Provide direction to coaches regarding uniform codes and violations;
- Conduct regular cross level meetings with coaches to promote idea sharing, lessons learned and effective communication;
- The Athletic Director serves as ex-officio member to the Football Competition Committee;
- The Athletic Director shall be the overall authority in all coaching matters, and shall have full authority and responsibility to conduct the athletic programs for all teams. This person shall not coach a team, or be an assistant coach;
- Responsible for identifying and recommending scholarship candidates for Board approval. At a minimum, scholarship candidates must be due to financial hardship and/or other extreme circumstances. No candidate may receive more than the amount of their registration fee in scholarship money. A written request to the AD or CD must be made to explaining the;
- Responsible for proper communication on behalf of the Packers organization;
- Responsible for representing the Packers with external parties as required (eg, League and franchise officials, LCISD officials, etc); and
- Represent the organization at league meetings.

Director of Football Operations:

- Person should have extensive knowledge of the game of football with preferably 10-plus years experience as a player and/or coach. Skill levels could be, but are not limited to, the NFL, NCAA, high school, junior high and youth football.
- Assist the Athletic Director in interviewing and selecting coaches and with other daily operations that pertain to the game of football;
- Review/research and assist the Director of Asset Management with the potential purchase of field and player equipment;
- Assist coaches in establishing: (1) protocols/formats for camps/practices; (2) fundamentals and proper techniques of the game of football, while abiding by the governing rules of play; and (3) proper drills and conditioning techniques;

- Provide solicited comments in regards to: (1) individual coach's offensive and defensive strategies; (2) football development needs of current roster players; (3) identification of best positions for current or new roster players; and (4) evaluation of potential additions; .
- Responsible for proper communication on behalf of the Packers organization;
- Responsible for representing the Packers with external parties as required (eg, League and franchise officials, LCISD officials, etc); and
- Represents the organization at league meetings as required.

Fundraising Director:

- Responsible for coordinating all fundraising efforts including seeking individual, small business and corporate sponsorships;
- Responsible for sponsorship banners/signage and ensuring other sponsor benefits are received as documented in sponsorship request form;
- Responsible for organizing an annual golf fund raiser;
- Responsible for appointing a merchandise coordinator to help organize merchandise sales and ensure a net profit for the organization;
- Provide regular updates to the Board on strategy, goals and fundraising execution;
- Responsible for proper communication on behalf of the Packers organization;
- Responsible for representing the Packers with external parties as required (eg, League and franchise officials, LCISD officials, etc); and
- Represents the organization at league meetings as required.

Asset Management Director:

- Responsible for inventory management and proper ordering and issuance of supplies, uniforms and equipment;
- Responsible for the repair, cleaning and storage of equipment at the close of the season;
- Responsible for identifying all related costs and coordinating expenditures within franchise budget process with regular updates to the Board;
- Responsible for proper communication on behalf of the Packers organization
- Responsible for representing the Packers with external parties as required (eg, League and franchise officials, LCISD officials, etc) ; and
- Represents the organization at league meetings as required.

Team Mom Director:

- Serves as a leadership resource for the President, Vice President, Athletic & Cheer Directors, and other Board members and Head Coaches on a variety of organizational needs;
- Has responsibility for coordinating a variety of activities and communicating with team members;
- Responsible for ensuring monitors and chain gang members are assigned at every game and for every level;
- Responsible for ensuring home game announcers are assigned at every game and for every level;
- Responsible for coordinating a homecoming event at one home game during the season;
- Responsible for coordinating the picture day event;
- Responsible for ensuring that each football and cheer team has an effective Team Mom;
- Responsible for organizing activities and coordinating communications with Team Moms;
- Responsible for proper communication on behalf of the Packers organization;
- Responsible for representing the Packers with external parties as required (eg, League and franchise officials, LCISD officials, etc); and
- Represents the organization at league meetings as required

Field Maintenance Director:

- Responsible for coordinating and ensuring that all Velasquez field maintenance-related activities are undertaken to ensure that the Packers have a quality practice field;
- Responsible for identifying all related costs and coordinating expenditures within franchise budget process with regular updates to the Board;
- Provide regular updates to the Board on planning and status of activities;

- Responsible for proper communication on behalf of the Packers organization;
- Responsible for representing the Packers with external parties as required (eg, League and franchise officials, LCISD officials, etc) ; and
- Represents the organization at league meetings as required;

Concessions & Events Coordinator:

- Responsible for coordinating special franchise events such as, kick-off event, end-of-year awards banquet, and other events that build pride and spirit;
- Responsible for coordinating all concession operations and ensuring there is a net profit in concession sales;
- Responsible for proper communication to all Packers members and event participants;
- Responsible for proper communication on behalf of the Packers organization;
- Responsible for representing the Packers with external parties as required (eg, League and franchise officials, LCISD officials, etc);
- Represents the organization at league meetings as required; and
- Provide regular updates to the Board on planning and status of all such events.

- B) The Executive Committee members shall assume their duties immediately after election and shall continue in office for a term of one year until the next Annual Membership Meeting with the exception of the President and Athletic Director. These positions will be for a term of two years with the election for each taking place on alternate years.
- C) If any vacancy occurs in the Executive Committee, it may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining officers at any regular meeting or at any special meeting called for that purpose.
- D) Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held immediately following the annual election. The President may whenever he/she deems it necessary or the Secretary shall at the request in writing of two – thirds (2/3) of the officers issue a call for a special meeting of the Executive Committee. Notice shall be given by the Secretary to all officers at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting. E-mails are considered proper notification.
- E) The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint standing committees as it shall determine appropriate and to delegate such authority to them as required to perform specific tasks that will enhance the overall organization.
- F) Each Board member shall have one (1) vote. Proxies will be accepted only if assignment of the proxy is submitted in writing (email transmission is acceptable) by the absent Board member. Participation is authorized by conference call.
- G) A quorum shall consist of 50% of the Executive Board members (excluding vacant positions), one of whom must be either the President or Vice President, unless otherwise stipulated by these by-laws.
- H) In order to minimize the number of Board meetings, the President may poll Board members in order to reach decisions regarding specific questions.
- I) Any Board member may resign his/her position by written resignation to the Board. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, or immediately if no time is specified thereon. The acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.
- J) Any vacancy on the Executive Committee shall be filled by presidential appointment with ratification of a 50% majority of the remaining Board members. The appointed person shall fill the position for the remaining unexpired term.
- K) All Board members and other members of the organization shall be volunteers receiving no compensation for performance of their duties. No officer or director of the organization shall willingly use his/her position for personal gain or to obtain any benefits that are not available to the entire membership.
- L) The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these by-laws.

ARTICLE VI – OPERATING COMMITTEES

- A) Immediately following the annual meeting, the Executive Officers will proceed to execute their leadership roles and organize their respective operating committees. . The purpose of these committees is to have a shared responsibility for the success of the Packers The following are standing committees:

Fundraising and Sponsorship:

This Committee, led by the Fund Raising Director and through the coordinated help of others, shall be responsible for investigating ways and means of financing the Greatwood Packers activities and programs including sponsorship, game concessions and fundraising. The Vice President serves as an ex-officio member to the Fundraising and Sponsorship Committee.

Communication:

This committee, led by the Communications Director and through the coordinated help of others,, is responsible for preparing the season calendar, external communications sent out with the franchise logo, media interfaces, etc. This committee cooperates closely with all committees and maintains the organizations web-site.

The President serves as an ex-officio member to the Communication Committee.

Asset Management:

This committee, led by the Asset Mgmt Director and through the coordinated help of others, is responsible for the inventory management and proper issuance of supplies and equipment that include repair, cleaning and storage of the equipment at the close of the season. The Vice President & Athletic Director serve as an ex-officio member to the Asset Mgmt Committee.

Playing and Practice Fields:

This committee, led by the Field Maintenance Director and through the coordinated help of others, is responsible for making sure the home playing field is prepared for home games (e.g., pylons and yardage markers are placed in the proper position for the flag and repositioned for the tackle games) and the required water bottles, chain operators, play monitors, pubic address announcer and clock operators are in place as required. This committee is also responsible for ensuring that the practice field is maintained (mowed, fertilized and watered) on a scheduled basis and that the appropriate volunteers have been identified and scheduled to conduct these activities in a manner that does not interfere with school activities. The Vice President & Athletic Director serve as an ex-officio member to the Fields Committee.

Football Competition:

This committee, led by the Football Operations Director and through the coordinated help of others, is responsible for providing expertise and knowledge to help the coaches teach safe techniques and develop better football players that are able to consistently compete with other teams in the league. The committee will provide observations and recommendations to board members and coaches on actions to help the program maintain success. The Vice President & Athletic Director serve as an ex-officio member to the Football Competition Committee.

Auditing:

This committee, led by someone appointed by the Vice President, and through the coordinated help of others, will review the financial books and records prior to each Annual Meeting and attach a statement of their findings to the annual financial statement of the President and Treasurer; or may, if directed by the Membership, secure the services of a Certified Public Accountant to accomplish the review. The President, Treasurer or signature of checks are not eligible to be members of this committee.

Concessions and Events:

This committee, led by the Concessions and Events director or appointed leadership and through the coordinated help of others, is responsible for events that build organization pride and spirit and for conducting concession stand operations efficiently at all practices, games, and other special events.

Merchandise:

This committee, led by the Fund Raising director or appointed leadership is responsible for designing Packers' spirit shirts, researching and identifying ideas for Packers' merchandise sales.

ARTICLE VII – CONFLICTING PROVISIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE BY LAWS

These By-Laws are intended to supplement the rules and regulations of the FBYFL. The rules of the FBYFL are controlling and shall supersede any conflicting provision of these By-Laws. The By-Laws shall only be amended by a two – thirds (2/3) vote of those present at a properly convened meeting of the Executive Committee. A properly convened meeting is described as one that all officers have been given notice of in a timely manner and the officers have been provided with at least (14) calendar days to review the proposed amendment.

GREATWOOD PACKERS RULES & REGULATIONS

ARTICLE I – GENERAL RULES AND APPLICABILITY

- 1.1 These rules and regulations are intended to supplement the rules and regulations of the FBYFL. The rules of the FBYFL are controlling and shall supersede any conflicting provision of these Rules and Regulations.
- 1.2 The Greatwood Packers Executive Board of Directors shall have discretionary authority over any subject not specifically included or referenced in these Rules and Regulations.

ARTICLE II – MEMBER PARTICIPATION

- 2.1 It is the responsibility of all Members to provide a continuous safe, positive and productive atmosphere for each participant in the Packers' organization.

ARTICLE III – COACHES, DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS

- 3.1 Coaches, Directors and Members must at all times comply with the following rules of conduct:
 - A. Display good conduct and sportsmanship at all times in the presence of participants and other children. Disagreements with officials, other coaches or Members shall be handled professionally at all times. Belligerent behavior will not be tolerated under any circumstances.
 - B. Never push or hit any child under their supervision unless in an appropriate manner while teaching a fundamental stance, technique or play.
 - C. Never use derogatory, abusive, degrading or inappropriate remarks toward any participants. The use of profanity is strictly forbidden at all times.
 - D. Never badger, ridicule or harass any official nor allow any team member under their control to do so.
 - E. Never punish a player for inadvertently incurring a penalty.
 - F. Never purposely teach unethical practices to any child under their supervision or control.
- 3.2 The Athletic Director(s) shall be the overall authority in all-coaching matters and shall have full authority and responsibility to pursue disciplinary actions against any coach, director or Member with the approval of the Board.
- 3.3 The Athletic Director(s) shall monitor and enforce the FBYFL Coaches Conduct Agreement to ensure that all coaches are in compliance with this Agreement.
- 3.4 Any coach or director, who is guilty of improper field decorum to the extent that his team is penalized for his actions or he is ejected from the game by a game official, is subject to disciplinary sanctions.
- 3.5 There will be a limit of eight coaches maximum on each team. There shall be a maximum of eight coaches, three trainers, the Athletic Director(s), appropriate Board Members, and franchise-authorized photographers on the sidelines during games.

ARTICLE IV – EQUIPMENT

- 4.1 Player safety shall not be compromised in the purchase of equipment.
- 4.2 Unless as noted below, football equipment issued by the Packers shall remain the property of the Packers. The Packers will purchase and provide to each player the following equipment: (a) helmet; (b) helmet padding; (c) chin strap; (d) game jersey; (e) game pants; and (f) shoulder pads; With the exception of the game jersey, all other equipment listed above must be returned to the Packers at the conclusion of the season.
- 4.3 Players shall be responsible for providing the following equipment: (a) footwear (rubber-molded cleats are highly recommended and screw-type cleats are prohibited); (b) practice jersey and pants (mesh practice jersey must conform to team color); (c) mouth pieces (which must be worn at all times during practices and games); (d) pads for game pants, and (e) optional miscellaneous items such as wrist bands, elbow pads, helmet visor, etc.; however all such items must be in conformance with FBYFL and NCAA rules (e.g., helmet visor must not be tinted such that it inhibits observation of eyes of injured player, etc.).
- 4.4 Cheer equipment and uniforms issued by the Packers shall remain the property of the Packers. The Packers will purchase and provide to each cheer participant the following: Cheer uniforms, consisting of skirt, shell, briefs, turtleneck, hair bow, pompoms, practice shirts, and cheer bag, will be ordered by the Packers and sold to each cheer player. All uniform pieces will conform to team colors and style. All equipment and uniform pieces are for the cheer players to keep and do not need to be returned to the franchise.
- 4.5 Cheer participants will be responsible for providing the following: (a) footwear (all white athletic shoes or cheer shoes); (b) practice shorts (cheer shorts must conform to team colors); and (c) no-show white socks.

ARTICLE V – DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

- 5.1 The Executive Members of the Board of Directors, typically through a formal recommendation by the Athletic Director, will review inappropriate behavior and disciplinary issues involving the franchise and its Members in accordance with By-Law Article III.C.

ARTICLE VI – PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION

- 6.1 Registration dates shall be determined by the Greatwood Packers Board of Directors each year.
- 6.2 All football participants for the five football teams shall be assigned to the appropriate teams based on the rules and regulations set forth by the FBYFL. All cheer participants shall be assigned to squads based on the age guidelines for football with the following exceptions: (a) a cheerleader may cheer two levels up or one level down from their appropriate FBYFL level; (b) a younger sibling cheerleader may cheer on/for the sibling's football team or cheer squad given that the level of adjustment is no more than two levels up from the regularly assigned squad.
- 6.3 Definitions for Participant Registration

- (a) **Returning Participant.** Returning Participants are those that played tackle or flag football or cheered the previous year in the Packers organization. They must have completed the previous season unless prevented from doing so due to injury or other justifiable extenuating circumstances. Participating in the franchise is a privilege and not an entitlement. The Returning Participant and the Returning Participant's family must be in good standing (see 'good standing') with the Packers organization. Returning Participants must complete and submit an application (and make appropriate registration payment, if required) for the upcoming season on or before the date to be determined by the Board of Directors. Head coaches are required to submit to the board the violation(s) that describe why a participant who is interested in returning is not in good standing.
- (b) **New Participant.** Is any participant that does not qualify as a Returning Participant by the above definitions (including the applicable registration submittal deadlines).
- (c) **Good Standing.** Participant is a good teammate, is not disruptive, has satisfactory attendance, is on-time, works hard, and demonstrates a commitment during practices and games. Participant and participant's family members have demonstrated good sportsmanship and adherence to the values and objectives of the Greatwood Packers franchise. All fees have been paid and all equipment returned on time.

6.4 Football Registration Priority. Teams will be filled in the following order:

- (a) First Priority – Returning Participant.
 - (i) Tackle football players to tackle football teams; flag players to flag team; and cheer to cheer squads.
 - (ii) Returning flag players eligible to play tackle football shall be given a spot on the Freshman team at the joint discretion of the Freshman Head Coach, Director of Football Operations, and Athletic Director. If these three individuals cannot agree, the franchise President will make the determination unless the President holds one of these positions in which case the Vice President will decide.
- (b) Second Priority – New Participants
 - (i) All Returning Participant status shall be forfeited for anyone who has not completed and submitted an application for the upcoming season on or before the respective deadline. All such participants that have forfeited their status must register as a New Participant.
 - (ii) (iii) Coaches may begin assigning roster spots to New Participants as early as the day following open registration as long eligible Returning Participants have been assigned a roster spot.

6.5 Football registration is for the purpose of

- (a) Ensuring that returning players in good standing from the previous season have an opportunity to return to the team.
- (b) Adding players to ensure the minimum number of roster spots are full as required by the league, and
- (c) Adding players above the minimum number of roster spots to round out the needs of the team.
- (d) During returning player registration each head coach may add up to five (5) football players to the team based on team needs.
 - a. No player is entitled to be added to the team regardless of situation (eg, board member son, siblings of other legacy players, etc., are not automatically entitled to a roster spot). The head coach has the responsibility for addressing the needs of the team.
- (e) In making the decision the head coach will consider several major factors
 - a. Assessment in filling the needs of the team;
 - b. Ensuring the family is willing to support the organization's mission to 'Develop life skills for youths and build community pride & spirit through a competitive youth football franchise'. The family must be a good fit by 'honoring the game', 'being supportive', 'demonstrating respect', 'volunteering', and 'being willing to participate within the structure, framework and

- requirements of the organization’. The positive culture of the organization is most important and the ‘family joining must be a proper fit in building pride and spirit’; and
- c. Ensuring the new player joining has the heart and determination to join the Packers. The player must not be forced to join by the parents/guardians. The player must be willing to work within a team structure, give maximum effort, stay focused and be willing to be challenged and grow.
 - (f) The Packers president, after consultation with others, has the right to over-rule a head coach and thereby refuse any potential family/player if the president believes that the potential family/player is not a proper fit for the organization.
 - (g) Board members, president included, are not permitted to pressure a head coach to add a player to the roster.
 - (h) An open registration process will take place for the purpose of filling the minimum number of football player roster spots required by the league.
 - a. The open registration date will be posted on the website one week before the date/time it will take place.
 - b. The website will indicate which levels, if any, have not met the minimum number of roster spots
 - c. The open registration will also allow potential players to submit their names as interested in playing however they are not accepted nor committed to the Packers unless a league registration form is signed as acceptance by the president or designee.
 - d. An interested participant cannot join the Packers if they have already registered with another team without first getting removed from the other team’s roster and by also paying the fee to the league as required by league rule.
 - (i) Once the spring camp begins no player can be added unless.
 - a. A player that was on the roster before the spring camps began is no longer on the roster (eg, relocates, etc.)
 - i. In the case of roster spots opening up the coach may replace that open roster spot
 - b. The head coach identifies a need to round-out the team and makes a special request to the Packers president
 - i. The Packers president will make that determination after consultation with the head coach(es), vice president, athletic director, director of football operations, and other board members as appropriate.
 - (j) Once the registration form is signed by the parent/guardian, along with the signature of the president or designee the player is committed to the Packer franchise

6.6 Cheer registration

- (a) Is for the purpose of adding cheer participants that bring spirit and pride to the organization
- (b) In making the decision the cheer director will consider multiple factors
 - a. Ensuring the family is willing to support the organization’s mission to ‘Develop life skills for youths and build community pride & spirit through a competitive youth football franchise’. The family must be a good fit by honoring the game, being supportive, demonstrating respect, volunteering, and being willing to participate within the structure, framework and requirements of the organization. The positive culture of the organization is most important and the family joining must be a proper fit in building pride and spirit; and
 - b. Ensuring the new cheer participant has the heart and determination to join the Packers. They must not be forced to join by the parents/guardians. The player must be willing to work within a team structure, be willing to learn, and contribute to an enjoyable cheer experience.
- (c) The Packers president, after consultation with others, has the right to over-rule a cheer director and thereby refuse any potential family/player if the president believes that the potential family/player is not a proper fit for the organization.

- (d) Board members, president included, are not permitted to pressure a cheer director to add a participant to the roster.
- (e) The dates for registration are set by the cheer director.

- 6.7 Safety Concerns for Players. Whether prior to or during the course of a season, if the Head Coach and Athletic Director determine that it is a safety issue for a child to play tackle football, the Head Coach and Athletic Director may jointly decide to remove the child from the team. If these two individuals cannot agree, the franchise President will make the determination unless the President holds one of these positions in which case the Vice President will decide. Prior to taking such an action, the matter must first be presented to the Executive Board for discussion.
- 6.8 Fees for Football players are \$300 each tackle, \$225 for flag, and \$100 for each Cheer participant. Registration fee that are paid by participants will not be refunded for any reason once the payment due date for the registration is now in the past. Families with multiple children participating in either Football or Cheer shall be granted a \$100 discount for each child AFTER the First Participating Child on the condition that a family member is an active volunteer in the organization. First Participating Child is hereby defined as the highest registration fee due. Additionally, any family that raises sponsorship money totaling a minimum of \$1000 for the franchise prior to November 1st in any season, or such donation by another party was made on behalf of the family, shall be entitled to a registration fee waiver on the First Participating Child. In the event the family has multiple participating children, the family shall still be entitled to the \$100 second child discount. Goods or services cannot be a substitute for the \$1000 monetary amount unless approved by the Board.

ARTICLE VII – SEASON PLAY AND OPERATIONS

- 7.1 The practice start date for the season shall be determined each year by the FBYFL. It is imperative that coaches understand the FBYFL rules that apply to camps and practices to ensure that they are in compliance at all times. Advanced coordination with the Athletic Director should occur prior to any potential practices, camps or social gatherings.
- 7.2 To be eligible to play in a contest, a player must have participated in at least two (2) practice sessions the previous week. The Head Coach and Athletic Director may waive this provision where individual circumstances warrant and under mutual agreement.
- 7.3 Any player or coach who is ejected from a game by a game official for bad sportsmanship or any other reason must be reported to the Athletic Director.
- 7.4 All players and cheerleader members must be enrolled in the insurance program adopted by FBYFL. No participants may partake in any game or practice session until such time as insurance coverage is effective.

ARTICLE VIII – SCHOLARSHIPS

- 8.1 Scholarships are awarded for the purpose of providing financial assistance to the family of a player or cheerleader.
- 8.2 Request for a scholarship may be submitted by any member of the organization to the Athletic Director or Cheer Director– and subsequently they will recommend candidates to the board. The board will vote on acceptance or not of the recommended candidates.

8.3 Scholarships will not generally be awarded by the organization unless an extreme financial hardship or other extreme circumstances warrant as such. As a matter of course it would be expected that the scholarship candidate is also pursuing sponsorships for themselves and/or the organization.

8.4 No candidate may receive more than the amount of their registration fee as scholarship money.

8.5 In total, across all football and cheer levels, the franchise will not award more than \$1800 in scholarships in any given season.

ATTACHMENT 1

BY-LAWS AND RULES & REGULATIONS MEMBER SIGNATURE FORM

I am aware that the Greatwood Packers By-Laws and Rules & Regulations explain the policies and regulations applicable to being a Member of the Greatwood Packers franchise and that the document is available at www.greatwoodpackers.com. I am further aware that it is my responsibility as a Member of the Greatwood Packers franchise to read, understand and be familiar with this document, particularly Article III under Rules & Regulations, which addresses the appropriate conduct expected from coaches, parents and players. I agree to abide by the By-Laws and Rules & Regulations during my affiliation with the Greatwood Packers, and I understand that there may be consequences for failing to do so, which could include suspension or dismissal from the franchise. I further understand that these documents can be amended at any time and that any such changes will be communicated through the above-mentioned web address.

Member Signature	Member Name (Printed)	Date
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Witness Signature	Witness Name (Printed)	Date
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