

Indiana Elementary Football Association



2020

RULES

(As of April 2020)

and

BYLAWS

Indiana Elementary Football Association

(As of April 2020)

RULES

SECTION I

Player Eligibility

- Item 1.** Eligible players must be enrolled in the 4th, 5th or 6th grade and not age 13 by June 1st of the current season. No player is eligible to play more than 3 years in the league.
- Item 2.** So as to minimize the possibility of injury, Offensive Backs and Receivers shall not exceed 115 pounds. Weights recorded at such time shall hold throughout the season and not be challenged.
- Item 3.** Tight end weight will be up to 125 pounds. Weights recorded at such time shall hold throughout the season and not be challenged.
- Item 4.** Single striper weight shall exceed 115 – 170 pounds. Weights recorded at such time shall hold throughout the season and not be challenged.
- Item 5.** Double striper weight shall be 170.01 pounds and above. Weights recorded at such time shall hold throughout the season and not be challenged.
- Item 6.** Players can play for an IEFA team under the following circumstances:
- A. You live in the district of the team.
 - a. If you do not live in the district:
 - i. You must have played for the house league of the IEFA program in the previous (year prior) entire FALL season. Spring season does not count.
 - B. The student is currently enrolled in a private/charter school that has an IEFA team
- Item 7.** Any person, who has successfully completed and passed the 4th grade, cannot compete in the IEFA the next year listed as a 4th grader. Any person, who has successfully completed and passed the 5th grade, cannot compete in the IEFA the next year listed as a 5th grader. Any person, who has successfully completed and passed the 6th grade, cannot compete in the IEFA the next year listed as a 6th grader. I.E. One year per grade of eligibility per grade level.
- Item 8.** All eligibility questions with reference to player personnel shall be referred to the Executive Board for final disposition.

SECTION II

Equipment/Injuries

- Item 1.** Helmets and face guards must be NOCSAE approved with all reconditioning up to date.
- Item 2.** Each organization shall be responsible for players having adequate body padding. Minimum standards shall be helmet, shoulder pads, pant pads, hip pads, thigh pads, tail pads, and shoes.

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(IHSAA rules).

- Item 3.** All players must be equipped with a non-clear mouthpiece, which is to be in the player's mouth when the ball is in play. (IHSAA rules).
- Item 4.** All players must be equipped with game jerseys, which are to be numbered front and back. Each team shall have two (2) sets of jerseys (one white and one dark color), and the dark color jerseys shall be worn at home. No Offensive Backs shall wear the numbers 50 through 79.
- Item 5.** All shoes must conform to IHSAA rules.
- Item 6.** The official IEFA football (Mikasa 6006, or Wilson GST Jr., or their equivalent) shall be used in all league games. The home team will provide an acceptable ball for play. It is permissible to switch balls on change of possession if the ball is an official IEFA football. All game balls are to be presented to the referee prior to each game.
- Item 7.** Players are to be excused from participation in practice and/or games in the event of illness or injury provided their parents require such absence. In the event of obvious injuries, players shall not be allowed to participate in practice and/or games until a doctor's certificate of fitness is furnished to the player's head coach. All members, organizations, and coaches must recognize that safety is of prime importance in the IEFA program and shall act accordingly in all situations.

SECTION III

Team Rosters and Facilities

- Item 1.** No more than 40 players, excluding mascots and managers, shall comprise an IEFA squad. Complete team rosters (with the names of the entire coaching staff) and corresponding photographs in game jerseys properly validated by a representative of another IEFA member, noting date of birth, school grade, school to be attended, and weight of each player, shall be forwarded to the President of the Board of Directors as soon as each team has weighed in.
- Item 2.** The IEFA Secretary will be responsible for giving each team a copy of all teams' official rosters with their official weights to the Head Coaches of each organization before the first game is played. An additional notification will be sent to all head coaches with updates from the Fall Kickoff Classic.
- Item 3.** Additions to team rosters may not be made after the official weigh-ins takes place.
- Item 4.** All member organizations shall provide a regulation size field for league competition. All fields shall have a time clock/scoreboard and are to be properly marked and equipped with goal posts. The Board of Directors must approve any deviation from these regulations, or playability.
- Item 5.** The host team shall provide indoor facilities to both teams if available, or to neither team if facilities are unavailable.
- Item 6.** Each team shall be required to maintain a general liability and player participation policies for their perspective travel teams and provide proof of such coverage to the IEFA Executive Board. The Certificate of Insurance must be part of the weigh in roster books. It is encouraged that the IEFA be listed as an ADDITIONALLY INSURED.

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SECTION IV

Weigh-In Procedures

Item 1. Official team weigh-ins will be made at a designated place and time (one (1) week) prior to the first game of the season. Weights recorded at this time will hold throughout the season and cannot be challenged. A member of the IEFA Executive Board not representing the team weighing in must be present at each weigh-in.

IEFA requires one of the following items to be included in each team's official roster book, per player, in addition to the birth certificate:

- a) Copy of official school report card from prior reporting period OR
- b) Official school transcript (showing grade completed) OR
- c) Copy of current year's class schedule (showing grade entering) OR
- d) In event of home schooled child, proper documentation from State of Indiana.

One of these four items, on official school document, must be presented in addition to copy of birth certificate/ state issued ID. This must be presented at the final IEFA meeting before the season starts. No players can be added to the roster after the books are turned in to the league.

Item 2. Each team shall have two (2) copies of a signed, prepared official game and weigh-in roster along with two (2) copies of documented proof of birth (birth certificates), two (2,1 per book) pictures of each player in either home or away jerseys, and a signed copy of the IEFA player code of conduct. Such pictures must be recent and acceptable provided they meet identification requirements which includes the players number showing. Each team will have the opportunity to send two (2) representatives to the official weigh-in. One IEFA official shall be responsible for weight accuracy and age verification of each player while the other IEFA official shall verify visual identification of each player through use of individual pictures, copy of birth certificates, while recording his name on the front or back of each copy thereof. The IEFA official shall date and sign his own name thereon and forward one (1) of the signed pictures and birth certificates of each player to the President of the Board. The team shall retain one (1) picture and birth certificate of each player (properly validated). If the player does not live in the district, they must provide visual proof (roster, registration, & picture) of playing in the in-house league the year prior.

Item 3. The IEFA Secretary will hold each teams' books for a period of 3 years. After the 3 year period has expired, the Secretary will be responsible for destroying the books by shredding their contents. During the 3 year retention period the books will only be accessed at the direction and discretion of the IEFA Executive Board.

Item 4. All players shall wear either their home (dark) jersey or their away (white) jersey to the weigh-in. If a player wears a different number at home games than he does at away games, he shall have a picture in both jerseys, and it must be duly noted on the team roster as well as reported to the Board of Directors.

Item 5. Accurate, certified, upright scales of the counter-balance type or accurate digital scales shall be used at all weigh-ins.

Item 6. Each team will be allowed up to five minutes access on the scales to check the weights of an

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unlimited number of players. If a team wishes to have a player as an offensive back or end and he weighs in over the legal playing weight of 115 pounds, he must not be presented in the official weigh-in line. Each team may have a maximum of five (5) "late weigh-ins" that must be weighed one (1) hour prior to their first game and must be listed on the original game roster. Stripped weights will be permissible. Once a player steps on the scales, he may step off to remove clothing one time only. He must be reweighed immediately.

- Item 7.** All players exceeding 115 but not more than 170 pounds at the official weigh-ins shall have their helmets marked front and back (approximately 2" wide x 6" long tape). All players exceeding 170 pounds at the official weigh-ins shall have their helmets marked front and back by an "X" (approximately 2" wide x 6" long tape). The tape shall be a distinctive, contrasting color so as to be readily identifiable by game officials. A player weighing more than 115 pounds, but not exceeding 125 pounds may play tight-end.. All players with the Tight End weight designation shall have their helmets marked front and back with 2" wide x 6" long orange tape. Note: All teams will bring tape to the weigh in, as players will be striped after they officially weigh in. Head Coaches are responsible to maintain the proper and visible striping of their players' helmets to designate weight class throughout the season.
- Item 8.** Offensive backs and receivers are not to exceed 115 pounds as recorded at the official weigh-ins and cannot be challenged.
- Item 9.** A player exceeding 115 but not more than 170 pounds may play any position on defense, but in the event of any yardage gained in possession of the ball by such player the play is to be blown dead immediately. Said players must be covered by a non-striped player on offense. A penalty of five (5) yards will be assessed for advancing the ball at the referee's discretion.
- Item 10.** A player exceeding 170 pounds must play offensive line tackle to tackle (i.e. tackle, guard, and center) only. Said players are also restricted from special teams play except for the kicker position in field goal and extra point attempts. A limit of two (2) "double strippers" are allowed on the field during offensive play only. If one (1) "double striker is on the field this player must be "covered" by a non striped player. If at any time two (2) "double strippers" are on the field they cannot be side by side. A dead ball penalty of 5 yds will be assessed for such players outside stated positions.
- Item 11.** A player may play tight end if he weighs 125 lbs or less. Must be on the line in a 3 point stance next to the Tackle, he may not take a hand off, he cannot be in a split or flexed position and he may not line up in the backfield. The player may advance a forward pass that has been thrown beyond the line of scrimmage. The player may not advance interceptions, fumbles, return kickoffs or punts.

SECTION V Practices

- Item 1.** Practice sessions with your selected IEFA team must commence by August 1st.
- Item 2.** Number of practices per week will be left to the discretion of the individual organizations.
- Item 3.** It is recommended that full speed head-on blocking or tackling drills in which the players line up more than 3 yards apart will not be permitted in any practices.
- Item 4.** It is recommended that the amount of full speed contact at each practice will be limited to a maximum of 1/3 of the total practice time (up to 40 minutes total of each practice and 1/3 of

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total weekly practice time). “Contact” is defined as full-speed drills and/or in-team scrimmages.

SECTION VI

All-State Teams

- Item 1.** An All-State Team will have representation by all teams in the IEFA.
- Item 2.** The coaches will vote their own team players to the All State Team. They are to vote: one skilled player, one lineman and one special team’s player (does not have to be a kicker). The IEFA will provide each player with an IEFA North or South All-State Patch and certificate.
- Item 3.** The selection of the All State Team must be sent to the President of the IEFA prior to the second round of the playoffs.
- Item 4.** In addition to the All-State Teams, the IEFA will recognize an Academic All-State Team. Each Head Coach will provide a list of players that have achieved at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 grading scale (or equivalent on other grading scales) with no deficient grades (D or F) to the President of the IEFA prior to the second round of the playoffs. The IEFA will provide each player with an IEFA Academic All-State Patch and certificate.
- Item 5.** The Academic All-State Players and the All State North & South Players will be introduced at the IEFA State Championship Game.

SECTION VII

Scheduling Structure

- Item 1.** Depending on the number of teams joining the association, The league will be split into two conferences (HCC & MIC)
- Item 2.** Scheduling will take place at the May Board Meeting. It is the goal of the IEFA that each team will play every team in their own conference with the remainder of the schedule made up with non-division foes. It is suggested that the outside of conference games are to be played at the beginning of the season. Non divisional games will be scheduled based upon the previous years standings. No team shall play all of their non-division foes at home or on the road if there is more than one (1) game scheduled. If a team played two (2) or more non-division games at home, then the next year they must play the equal amount of games on the road. Final game of the regular season shall not be against a sectional opponent.
- Item 3.** The first games of each season or Fall Kickoff Classic will rotate from HCC and MIC on a yearly basis.
- Item 4.** There will be a \$3.00 admission charge to the IEFA first game or the Kickoff Classic with the proceeds going to the IEFA general fund minus game referee, emt, and field rental cost. These games are required to be played High School facility (or equivalent if approved by majority of the Executive Board), therefore allowing for collection of gate fees. This will be charged to all non-participants over the age of twelve (12) years of age. The IEFA first games are referred to as the Fall Kickoff Classic. All teams will play where the season openers are played on multiple fields.

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Item 5. Any home team, who, for any reason, cannot use their field on the scheduled date, shall have the option of securing another field on which to play the game on the specific date. If no such field, can be secured at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to game time, the visiting team shall have the right to play the game on any field they may be able to secure. Should no game site be available to either team, the game shall be postponed. It shall be the specific responsibility of the scheduled home team to notify game officials, the opposing team and the IEFA President of any changes involved, in writing and/or email, if possible.

Item 6. In the event of game postponement, the two teams shall reschedule the game on a mutual agreeable date with the home team, as originally scheduled, having the options of selecting game site. Any IHSAA rule or rules that might prohibit the rescheduled game will be waived. All rescheduled games will be played before the next regular game.

Item 7. To determine team standing and break ties concerning team standings, the following procedure will be used:

TWO TEAMS

1. Won lost record
2. Head to head competition
3. Defensive points allowed
4. Coin Flip

THREE OR MORE TEAMS

1. Won lost record
2. Head to head competition
3. Defensive points allowed
4. Coin Flip

Item 8. Any team failing to show for a scheduled game without twenty-four (24) hour prior notice shall be subject to suspension from the IEFA or other such disciplinary action as may be deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.

Item 9. Team rosters, birth certificates and corresponding pictures of players in game jersey, properly validated, shall be available at the site of each game. In the event a team fails to supply those items at game time, the other team shall be allowed the option of accepting a forfeit. However, if the game is played, the score will be official and no protest will be heard with respect to the improper use of player personnel. Should both teams fail in this respect, the game shall be postponed.

Item 10. A certified athletic trainer or EMS will be present at all regular season games. The responsibility of scheduling and payment of the athletic trainer will be the responsibility of the host team. The athletic trainer's services will be made available to both teams. Failure to have a trainer available will result in a home game loss for the next season.

Item 11. In the event of a lost home game, it would not be the kickoff classic

Playoff Structure

Item 1. Each team in each division will participate in the league playoffs to determine the IEFA Champion.

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- Item 2.** A Conference Championship Trophy will be awarded to respective conference winners. A State Traveling IEFA trophy (“The Gene Burns Championship Trophy”) will be awarded to the State IEFA Champions. A permanent trophy will be awarded to the Tournament winning team as well as individual awards. The IEFA championship patch will be awarded to each player and Coach on the State Championship team. A regular IEFA patch will be awarded to all new players on each team. A Sectional Trophy will be awarded to Second Round winning teams.
- Item 3.** There will be a \$3.00 admission charge to all IEFA Playoff games, with the proceeds going to the IEFA general fund minus game referee cost and trainer. These games are required to be played High School facility (or equivalent if approved by majority of the Executive Board), therefore allowing for collection of gate fees. This will be charged to all non-participants over the age of twelve (12) years of age.
- Item 4.** The playoffs will include all teams with the seeding based on the regular season. If there are an odd number of teams in each conference, then the teams in each conference with the best record get a bye in the 1st round and host the second round. Second place would have the option to host the 1st round and so on in descending league standing. If there is a situation where a team or teams are ineligible to compete in the playoffs, then all eligible voting members of IEFA should decide the seeding process, which would include all eligible teams in IEFA. The semi-finals and finals are to be played on alternating years with the HCC and MIC hosting the games. Once the seeding in each division is established, subsequent games will be determined in a tournament bracket format, with the highest winning seed hosting the winner for their next bracketed opponent.
- Item 5.** Team rosters, birth certificates and corresponding pictures of players in game jersey, properly validated, shall be available at the site of each game. In the event a team fails to supply those items at game time, the other team shall be allowed the option of accepting a forfeit. However, if the game is played, the score will be official and no protest will be heard with respect to the improper use of player personnel. Should both teams fail in this respect, the game shall be postponed.
- Item 6.** A certified athletic trainer or EMS will be present at all playoff games. Payment for the athletic trainer’s services will be made by the IEFA during playoff games. The athletic trainer’s services will be made available to both teams.
- Item 7.** Sectional Brackets

Conferences will be aligned at the beginning of the season. One side will consist of all even seeded teams from the MIC playing odd seeded teams from the HCC and vice versa.

- Item 8.** New teams will be added to sectional brackets and voted on by all board members.

SECTION VIII

Game Officials

- Item 1.** The Director of Officials shall be responsible for contracting with officials registered with IEFA.

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- Item 2.** The Director of Officials will supply the league with a roster of officials who are going to be involved in the rotation for the current year no later than 60 days prior to opening weekend of the season. Each member will be allowed to strike two (2) names off the list to indicate that such game officials shall not participate in any game involving the striking team. If any names are struck, the members and head coaches must return the listing, properly identified and signed, to the Director of Officials and Executive Board at least six (6) weeks prior to the first scheduled game. Selections of officials are to be approved by committee at least four (4) weeks prior to the first scheduled game.
- Item 3.** Weekly Official assignments are to be posted no later than noon on Wednesday. If there are any discrepancies in assignments, those need to be reported back by Thursday at noon to allow any needed rescheduling.
- Item 4.** Selections of playoff officials are to be approved before first round of playoffs by all head coaches or member representative. Determining the officials for the playoffs will be determined by their scores accumulated throughout the season submitted by all coaches.
- Item 5.** The Director of Officials shall be responsible for assigning three (3) registered officials to each scheduled league game. Only registered officials shall be used. A minimum of two (2) officials must be present for the game to be played. There shall be four (4) registered officials at the Regional, Semi-State, and Championship playoff games.
- Item 6.** The Director of Officials shall schedule the officials such that each crew works no more than one game at each IEFA team's home field. Any exception to this rule must be approved by the executive board.
- Item 7.** Official's fees are to be negotiated and determined by the Board of Directors in a meeting not less than one (1) month prior to the first game of the season. The fees are to be determined by contract official for the current season. The Director of Officials will not be paid the game fee if he is required to take the place of a previously scheduled game official who is not available at the agreed upon game time and location. "B" team games are \$55 for 4 quarters or \$30 for 2 quarters. Host teams may use "house" referees for "B" team games.
- Item 8.** The IEFA shall be responsible for the official and trainer fees for all playoffs the Jamboree, and the Fall Kickoff Classic.
- Item 9.** The Executive Board shall be responsible for recommending for Board selection candidate(s) for the Director of IEFA Officials. This person shall become a NON-VOTING member of the Executive Board of Directors and attendance is required at all league meetings.
- Item 10.** The duties of the Director of Officials shall be to secure contracts with qualified IHSAA officials, and to schedule the officials for all IEFA games and playoffs. Further, the Director of Officials shall be in a position to observe as many actual games as possible. The purpose of the observation is the need to review with game officials interpretations of the IHSAA and IEFA rules and to ensure the caliber of officials remain the highest-level possible. It is imperative that all officials know the Indiana Elementary Football Association rules and that the Director of Officials is responsible for making sure that the game officials do know the IEFA rules. It is recommended that all officials being used, participate in an on line meeting in which the IEFA rules would be covered plus there would be a follow up test administered.

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- Item 11.** The Director of Officials is not to work games unless something arises and he is a last viable option. All games worked by Director of Officials must be approved by Executive Board.
- Item 12.** The Director of Officials shall be paid a total of \$1000 per year, in which \$500 will be paid at first week of season and the balance of \$500 to be paid at the yearend banquet. This breaks down as \$750 base pay and \$250 as transportation expenses.
- Item 13.** No later than Monday following a Saturday game, each Head Coach must send an email to the Chairman of the IEFA Officials Committee and a League Administrator with a numerical ranking of each official that participate in the previous Saturday's game. The ranking scale shall be from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent). The Chairman shall keep a record of each officials ranking, and the officials with the highest rankings will be assigned to continue working throughout the playoff
- Item 14.** Director of Officials will submit contact information of all referees being used each week that the IEFA coaches may use to contact in emergencies

SECTION IX

Coaches

- Item 1.** Head Coaches of each IEFA team will be responsible for, but not limited to, the following:
- A. Head Coaches will be responsible for an adequate dynamic stretching and warm up prior to each game.
 - B. Head Coaches shall be responsible for:
 - 1. Actions of their coaching staffs
 - 2. Actions of their players
 - 3. Actions of their parents
 - C. The coaching staffs of all IEFA teams must wear identifying apparel.
 - D. Head Coaches and team captains are required to meet with Officials in the middle of the playing field before game time. The purpose of this meeting is the introduction of Officials and Head Coaches if present, and for Head Coaches to participate in the coin toss if they so choose.
 - D. All IEFA Coaches are to be USA certified or certified within their own school system.
- Item 2.** Each member organization should devote at least five (5) minutes of every practice session to promote the merits of good scholarship, citizenship, classroom conduct, and teamwork at home as well as on the football field. Youths are encouraged to confide in parents and coaches if and when they are having scholastic problems and are to be excused from practice, with no penalty attached, until such problems are remedied to parental satisfaction.
- Item 3:** At no time shall a play be called by a Coach or Player that in the opinion of the referee is a direct intent to harm a player or group of players. Should this occur, the player and the Head coach shall be ejected from the game and the entire facility. If an assistant coach is to be determined to be at fault then he or she shall be immediately ejected along with the player and the head coach from the game and the entire facility. This is to state that if they have transportation responsibilities that they may wait to perform said responsibilities in the parking lot. This infraction is to be reported to the President and Secretary of the IEFA within 48 hours. Each case will result in an automatic lifetime suspension of the head coach and all assistant coaches,

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reviewable at the discretion of the Executive Board.

- Item 4.** Verbal or physical abuse of players or referees is not to be tolerated regardless of circumstances. Cursing on part of, or in the presence of team members is strictly forbidden. It shall be incumbent on member organizations to expel coaches and/or players for flagrant or continuing infractions of these regulations.
- Item 5.** Bullying Referees or another Coach, Assistant Coach, or a Player or his family inside or outside of IEFA competition will not be tolerated. If a Referee, Head Coach, or a person related to his team, feels that he is getting this form of harassment from another Coach or his staff, he may report it at once to the IEFA Executive Board. If the accused is found to be guilty of such an act, he shall receive a one (1) game suspension and placed on one (1) year probation. If said accused is found guilty a second time, he will be suspended one (1) year from coaching in the IEFA and the third time, he shall receive an automatic lifetime suspension. Win or lose, coaches and players shall show good sportsmanship by congratulating their opponents players and coaches after the game is finished.
- Item 6.** If a Head Coach, or a member of his coaching staff, knowingly allows an ineligible player to participate in the IEFA, an investigation per Section 10, Item 1 will be started. If the outcome of the investigation is a finding of guilty, the member organization **may** be banned for a period of two (2) years from competition in the IEFA. After the two (2) year period has been served, said organization (if they wish) shall have the right to resubmit their “Application for Membership” as stated in the IEFA By-Laws Article III. **REMEMBER...WE ARE IN THIS FOR THE KIDS!!!!**
- Item 7.** Any coach or player that is ejected from a game will be reported to the director of officials, who will then notify the Secretary. Each team playing in the game the following week will be informed of the ejected player or coach twenty-four (24) hours prior to the game. Player may attend the following game, but must not be in uniform. Coach is barred from the facilities and attendance at the following game.

SECTION X

IEFA Rules

- Item 1.** All IEFA games shall be played under Indiana High School Football rules except as stated herein.
- Item 2.** A PAT attempted from the 3 yd line will count as 1 point whether it is a run, pass or kick., and from the 5 yd line will count as 2 whether it is a run, pass or kick.
- Item 3.** Quarters shall consist of four (4), timed, nine (9) minute periods. Running clock will stick to high school rules.
- Item 4.** Play clock will be 30 seconds once ball is set on referee’s signal
- Item 5.** Regulation sized football fields must be used as stipulated in the rules and by-laws, and should be marked in accordance with IHSAA rules.
- Item 6.** Any player wearing a hard plaster cast or splint will not be allowed to play, unless properly padded and approved by the game officials (IHSAA rules).

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- Item 7.** It is optional that each team have a representative in the scorer's box. This does not necessarily mean their own particular representatives be those are serving on the Board.
- Item 8.** Chains and down markers must be kept on the visitor side and must be manned by two (2) representatives from the visiting team and one (1) representative from the home team. If either the visitor or home team cannot meet this requirement the position will be filled with a representative from the other team.
- Item 9.** It is recommended that teams be on the field 30 minutes before game time.
- Item 10.** Any visiting team arriving 30 minutes after game time will allow the home team the option of accepting a forfeit, with said forfeit to be subject to approval by the Rules Committee. If any such forfeit is not so approved, the game shall be rescheduled. However, if the game is played, the game score will be official. Forfeiture scores shall be recorded as 6-0. Home team is responsible for the starting time and shall also comply with above provision.
- Item 11.** The IEFA shall establish the Spirit Award ("The Terry Prather Spirit and Sportsmanship Award") that will be awarded to a member from each division whose team and league exemplify the traits of good sportsmanship and spirit conducive to proper mental and moral development of the players in which it serves.
- Item 12.** Any double-striped player may be used as a kicker only for extra points only, but shall make no attempt to advance the ball. The Referee must be notified before using a double-striped player in this capacity. A single-striped player may kick-off or punt, but cannot advance the ball by running or passing, or attempt a rugby-style punt.
- Item 13.** All playoff games are to be played on a High School football field, unless an equivalent field is approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. If there is a situation where the home team cannot provide an approved field, a neutral High School field will be chosen with Board Approval.

SECTION XI

Misconduct and Protest

- Item 1.** A Rules Infraction Committee (Executive Board and alternates as needed) will review and pass on all "Reports of Misconduct" and "Protests" with the following stipulations:
- A.** All reports of misconduct or protest must be submitted by an IEFA Board Member or one of the game officials to the IEFA President and Secretary.
 - B.** Notice of forthcoming Report of Protest must be phoned to the IEFA President and Secretary within 48 hours of the subject game starting time. A written Report of Protest must be postmarked within 72 hours of the subject game starting time with a copy of such Report of Protest to be mailed by the initiator to the opposing team.
 - C.** The protest fee will be \$50.00 made payable to IEFA and a letter of protest forwarded to the Treasurer. After the *Infraction Committee* accepts the Protest, the following action will be taken:

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1. Fee will be returned if protest is allowed.
 2. Fee will be forfeited if protest is disallowed or withdrawn.
- D. The following penalties will be enforced by the *Infraction Committee* if they find misconduct or rule infraction:
1. Coach's conduct worthy of censure
 - a. Discipline from the Board
 2. Infraction of League Rules
 - a. Forfeit of game in which rule(s) was broken

Item 2. Game Referees and Coaches shall be required to report all infractions, in writing and/or email, to the IEFA President and Secretary within 48 hours of said infractions. The IEFA President shall be required to report such infractions, in writing and/or email, to the President of the affected member organizations, including recommendations of discipline to coaches or players.

All reports of misconduct made against a Coach shall be specific with reference to the action of the Coach, which equals misconduct. The misconduct shall be:

- A. Signed by the Coach or Official making the charge of misconduct before two (2) witnesses.
- B. A copy shall be served on the Coach at the office of the league in which he coaches, and at his home.
- C. A copy shall be served on the President of the Coach's league, or upon the next highest official in said league if the Coach serves as President, upon the Head Coach, and upon the President of the IEFA. The President of the IEFA shall set the matter for a hearing before the entire Board and Head Coaches within three (3) days of the date of the complaint.
- D. A determination of the truth or falsity of the charges and the appropriate discipline shall be made by the majority vote of the Board and Head Coaches.
- E. Discipline may be applied up to a two (2) game suspension from coaching at both practice and games by the IEFA Board of Directors, without notice to the league in which the offending person coaches
- F. All discipline beyond two (2) games suspension shall be applied after due notice has been given to the League in which the offending party coaches.

SECTION XII

Conferences

Per the By-Laws, Article II Section 9, The Board shall also have the power to realign divisions as necessary. As of 2019, the following will be the realignment of the current and new teams in the IEFA.

MIC Conference

Ben Davis

Carmel

Center Grove

Pike

North Central

Warren Central

Lawrence

Northwest

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HCC Conference

Fishers/HSE

Noblesville

Westfield

Avon

Brownsburg

Zionsville

Decatur

Franklin Central

Paramount

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

Association Name and Rationales

- Section 1.** The name of this organization shall be “Indiana Elementary Football Association”; the contract shall be recognized as “IEFA”.
- Section 2.** The rationale of the IEFA shall be to develop and maintain a properly supervised football conference for youth in the fourth (4th), fifth (5th), and sixth (6th) grades in the State of Indiana, to promote improved community relations by universal and compatible basis, to encourage physical and mental growth through keen competition, to emphasize good citizenship and scholastic achievement and to nurture good sportsmanship and a sense of fair play.

ARTICLE II

Administration

- Section 1.** A governing board of Association officials, to be known as the “Board of Directors” shall be composed of no more than two (2) appointees selected by each Association member. It is recommended that at least one such appointee be from the community at large and not from the active coaching ranks. This body shall conduct and regulate all the affairs of the IEFA.
- Section 2.** An association member may remove either or both appointees to the Board of Directors at any time, with or without cause, providing that the Board of Directors of the Association is notified of such action in writing and/or email and that such removal is made with consent of the governing body of said Association member.
- Section 3.** The Board of Directors shall elect from among its membership an “Executive Board” at each annual meeting consisting of a President, President Elect, Vice President, Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board and until their successors are elected and qualified. No one person may hold more than one of the specified offices. No member organization may be represented more than once among these offices unless the membership approves by vote. The President shall hold that office for one (1) year. The President Elect shall succeed the President the following year and the Vice President shall succeed the President Elect. The Board should strive to balance the offices by divisions.

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- Section 4.** A rules infraction committee consisting of 1.) President, 2.) President Elect, 3.) Vice President, 4.) Secretary, 5.) Treasurer, and two (2) alternates elected by the membership shall review and pass on all rule infractions per Game/IEFA Rules. The elected member must be a representative from an organization not previously represented in the four (4) regular association offices. In the case that one or more of the conflicting organizations are represented on the Infraction Committee, this member or members will be removed in ascending order to an odd numbered committee. The Rule Infraction Committee will hear each side once along with one rebuttal. Game officials may be called for consultation.
- Section 5.** The President shall reside at all meetings of the Board and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. He shall have a general oversight over all affairs of the IEFA between the meetings of the Board. The President Elect, in the absence of the President, shall assist the President in the conduct of the IEFA affairs. The Secretary shall maintain the books, records and minutes of the IEFA and shall be responsible for the clerical functions of the organization. The Treasurer shall receive, deposit and disburse all moneys belonging to the IEFA and make an accounting thereof at the request of the President or the Board of Directors. A report on the financial condition of the IEFA shall be made by the Treasurer at each annual meeting of the Board of Directors. The Vice President shall assist the President and President Elect.
- Section 6.** The Board of Directors shall conduct its annual meeting in January for organizational and Rules and By-law changes. The Board of Directors shall meet in March, April, May, and July. Special meetings may be called by the President, or by the President at the request of any two (2) Association members. Each Association board member shall receive ten (10) days prior notice stating the TIME, PLACE, and DATE of the meeting in writing, email, or by phone.
- Section 7.** A quorum to any meeting of the Board of Directors shall consist of representation of at least fifty (50) percent of the organizations that are members of the IEFA. Each member organization shall have one (1) vote on all matters brought before the Board, regardless of the presence of both Directors. In the event of disagreement between Directors of the same organization, said member shall cast no vote. A majority of organizations thus represented shall prevail in all matters voted upon. Members not represented at regularly scheduled meetings shall lose the right to host their first home game and one additional game for each subsequently missed meeting (kickoff classic is not considered a home game). Executive board may reinstate home game if notified within 48 hours of why team missed meeting.
- Section 8.** The Board of Directors shall have the power to form committees not necessarily from their membership, in the discharge of its duties and responsibilities. Such committees may be delegated specific powers of the Board and decisions reached by such committees with such powers shall be binding upon all Association members unless nullifying Board action is taken. However, the Board may not delegate the power to alter, amend or modify these By-laws in particular, and no committee shall contravene any provisions contained therein; nor shall the Board delegate the power to accept or reject applications for membership in the IEFA.
- Section 9.** The Board of Directors shall have the power to permit an organization in good standing to change their name and location without losing their regular membership. The Board shall also have the power to realign divisions as necessary.

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Section 10. Annual dues shall be \$1,200 paid by each participating team to the IEFA Treasurer. \$600 must be paid June 15th. The remaining funds must be paid by Aug. 1st.

Section 11. The powers of the Board of Directors shall include, but not limited to the following:

- a. Translation of all business matters
- b. Review and adjust annual membership dues and level special assessments not to exceed an amount equal to annual dues in any one year
- c. Make final disposition of all rules infractions
- d. Development and maintenance of promotional publicity and public relations programs
- e. Amendments, modification, alteration or abrogation of the By-laws
- f. Development of standards of players equipment, said standards to exclude price, manufacturer or model except for identification purposes, but to set forth minimal levels of protective qualities
- g. Accept or reject applications for memberships in the IEFA
- h. Make investigations pertaining to IEFA players personnel
- i. Approval of team colors or change team colors
- j. Appointing non-voting Advisory Board Members

ARTICLE III

New Members Eligibility Requirements

Section 1. Any organizations with responsible sponsorship; meaning that they shall have a Board of Directors, be well financed, must have an in-house football program and a solid background, desiring to join the IEFA may do so, subject to the unanimous acceptance by the Board of Directors of the Association, and providing that they agree to accept and conform to the basic philosophy, rules and regulations, set forth or provided for in these By-laws. Should only one organization be opposed to any new member, that organization will be required to submit their objections in writing and/or email to the executive committee for final review. After review by the Executive Board, they may override the one organization's objection, thus allowing the new member to be added to the league.

Section 2. A completed "Application for Membership" must be submitted in writing and/or email together with a check or money order for membership fee of \$400.00 and first year dues before any admitting action is taken. The check or money order must be submitted no later than the scheduled meeting in March.

Section 3. **A Team that operates as a for profit organization and has no league affiliation may not participate in the IEFA.**

ARTICLE IV

Rules

Section 1. The official playing rules are published by the league and they SHALL BE BINDING.

Section 2. The rules of the league shall be approved by the Board of Directors at a meeting to be held not less than one (1) month previous to the first scheduled game of the season.