

BERKELEY YOUTH FOOTBALL CONFERENCE – 2017

NOTE: You will be given a final copy of bylaws when approved by Commissioners

1. The official name shall be the Berkeley Youth Football Conference (B.Y.F.C.). The conference shall consist of Moncks Corner, Ladson, Bonneau/Alvin, Goose Creek, Hanahan and St. Stephen.
2. Other Towns or Leagues wishing to join the conference must meet all of the following criteria before being considered:
 - A. MUST OFFER AT LEAST TWO OF THE FOUR AGE GROUPS AND WEIGHT DIVISIONS
 - B. MUST PAY A ONE TIME \$200 FRANCHISE ENTRY FEE.
 - C. MUST USE BYFC OFFICIALS AND RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING THOSE OFFICIALS.
 - D. PROGRAM WILL BE ON ONE-YEAR PROBATION, AFTER THAT YEAR THE COMMISSIONERS WILL DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO INCLUDE INTO CONFERENCE.
 - E. WILL NOT HAVE ANY VOTING PRIVILEGES OR ANY DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY.
 - F. GUARANTEE A SITE TO HOST AT LEAST 1 WEEK OF GAMES PER SEASON
 - G. MUST HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE AT OPENING DAY AND ALL TOURNAMENT GAMES PLAYED BY THEIR DEPARTMENT.
3. The governing body of this organization shall be vested in the commissioners of the individual leagues, with these choosing a chairman. Only the commissioners will vote on the matters concerning the B.Y.F.C. ***Commissioners in the BYFC may not be a Head Coach in the Conference.***
4. The commissioners of the league will review the By-Laws at the end of each year.
5. Each League will pay \$50.00 per team to the B.Y.F.C. toward the operating funds for the season. The B.Y.F.C. Officials may review financial matters each year. Cheerleaders will pay \$30.00. Except for leagues outside B.Y.F.C. (\$200.00 for outside teams).
6. The Official rules of the B.Y.F.C. and the National Federation of High School rules. The Conference rules will be used along with those listed above. The rules stated in these guidelines will be used the entire season including the B.Y.F.C. Tournament.
7. Players will be assigned to teams according to weight and age. Cheerleaders will be assigned to teams according to age.

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>NON-RESTRICTED WEIGHT</u>	<u>INTERIOR LINE ONLY</u>
MIDGETS	7 & UNDER	115 & UNDER	(OVER 115)
PEE WEE	9 & UNDER	130 & UNDER	(OVER 130)
SMALL FRY	11 & UNDER	150 & UNDER	(OVER 150)
BANTAM	13 & UNDER	165 & UNDER	(OVER 165)

- a. All ages are effective as of September 1 of upcoming season. (NO EXCEPTIONS)

b. All players will be weighed prior to the first game by their league official. (DEADLINE DATE) ALL PLAYERS MUST BE WEIGHED IN BY LAST THURSDAY IN AUGUST. (EXCEPT NEW PLAYERS ADDED AFTER SAID DATE) NO WAIVING THIS RULE.

c. ALL PLAYERS WITHIN 5 POUNDS OR ABOVE THE WEIGHT LIMIT MUST BE WEIGHED IN BEFORE EACH GAME. Interior line players (*players exceeding the weight limit*) may play on the **offensive/defensive line only** (*tackle to tackle*) and must be in 3 or 4 point stance, and will be identified by a Red Football Decal on the front of their helmet. They are not allowed to play on special teams; kickoffs, punt, kickoff/punt returns, to kick PAT's, and/or advance fumbles or interceptions, etc. - Penalty for playing a restricted line player in an ineligible position will result in an unsportsmanlike penalty (15 yards) and a warning to the Head Coach; a second offense in the same game will result in the Head Coach being ejected and a (15 yard) unsportsmanlike penalty. NOTE: If a player has a red star on their helmet and weighs in below the restricted weight, the game host Commissioner will remove the red star from their helmet for that game.

(Weigh-ins will be conducted 30 minutes prior to game for first game of day and half-time of games thereafter) Players needing to be weighed will do so before game time. Players failing to make the weight limit the first time will have one more opportunity to make the weight limit. A player weighs first in full gear then he may take all or a partial amount of his equipment off for his second weigh in (with no less than his shorts). (Players must be weighed prior to officials taking the field for said game; those not making the weigh in must wait to half time of their game)

FOR TOURNAMENT ONLY -- Once a player is weighed and is within the parameters for his respective league, he will be eligible for the entire B.Y.F.C. Tournament. (Players must be weighed prior to officials taking the field for said game; those not making the weigh in must wait to half time of their game)

d. No player participating on any football team within the B.Y.F.C. will be allowed to run on game day at the game site for the purpose of losing weight. Nor will any player be allowed to weigh prior to their team's official weigh in conducted by a league official. The league strongly opposes a player running on game day. Running is not safe for that player's health.

* PENALTY FOR FIRST OFFENSE --COACH AND PLAYER SUSPENDED FOR THAT GAME.

* PENALTY FOR SECOND OFFENSE - REMOVAL OF COACH FROM HIS COACHING POSITION.

NO PLAYER WILL BE ALLOWED TO WEAR PLASTIC GARBAGE BAGS DURING PRACTICE OR ON GAME DAY FOR LOSING WEIGHT OR ANY OTHER REASON. PENALTY IS SAME AS DESCRIBED EARLIER IN THIS PARAGRAPH.

8. Players will play in their respective leagues by age.

9. All protests must be made within 15 minutes following the game to field supervisor. There will be a \$25.00 fee for protest. If your protest is upheld, you will get the money back. If you lose the protest, the money goes to the B.Y.F.C.

10. All players participating in this conference must wear a football helmet with the NOCSAE seal of approval. Please have parents obtain helmets that provide safe protection for players. Coaches are also reminded not to hand paint these helmets because doing so voids most safety guarantees. The player must furnish helmets, shoulder pads, athletic supporters, mouthpieces, and pants. Players must wear canvas top shoes, or rubber cleats/ leather shoes. Players WILL NOT be allowed to practice or play in metal cleats or bare feet. (*FOUR SNAP CHIN STRAPS MUST BE WORN AND COLORED MOUTH PIECES*)
11. Teams will be limited to 30 players, unless approved by league officials. Each department will handle cheerleading rosters. (B.Y.F.C. will only pay for a maximum of 15 cheerleading trophies). Rosters will be exchanged among league officials, these will be used for weigh ins. Any changes or additions will be forwarded to league officials. (Rosters must include jersey #'s. No switching of jerseys during the season. Blood rule will be in effect and opposing coaches must be notified)
12. Any coach who willfully plays an ineligible player will be replaced immediately and all games in which said player participated shall be forfeited. KNOW YOUR PLAYERS' AGES. Each league is responsible for verifying each player's age and league officials need to sign the roster.
13. No new players may be assigned after October 6 of current season. No new transfer or transient players will be allowed to enter or switch teams unless there is a viable reason. Total discretion is left up to the league official and the B.Y.F.C. chairman.
14. Any coach or player ejected or removed from a game for any reason will be suspended for that game and the next game played by his team. Any reoccurrence should be brought before the BYFC governing body. (The suspended coach should be in the "spectator area" and the player in street clothes on the sidelines during the suspension.) *Officials will issue a written statement within 24 hours to the commissioners.*

If a team does not show up for a game or any BYFC function, that league will be responsible to pay a fine of \$150.00, unless 24 hours notice is given to the league and the opposing team.
15. Any intervention by parents or players with coaches or officials will cause the parents to be barred from the game fields for the remainder of the season. **THIS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.**
16. Postponed games due to weather will be rescheduled by BYFC officials within the same week or the next week at another location. Make up games are to be played prior to the start of the BYFC tournament if necessary. Once a game begins, it is under the control of the officials. In the event a game is called after it has begun, the league official present will take note of the situation and the game will be picked up from the point of which the game is interrupted.
17. In the event of an injury the coach should see to it that a doctor is available or make arrangements for EMS to come to the field. League officials will have this information available or will be able to contact EMS. All coaches and parents are reminded to be very careful in moving a player who may have a fractured bone. Make a report of the injury to your appropriate league official. Any player shaken up on a play must sit out at least one play.

18. Footballs: Midget will use the K-2, Pee Wee will use TDJ, Small Fry and Bantam will use TDY. League officials will supply game balls at their facilities.
19. There will be one coach from a Pee Wee team allowed on the playing field. Two coaches from a midget team will be allowed on the playing field. All coaches are required to be (10) yards behind the line of scrimmage by the time the center and offensive line are over the ball. *Coaches may not talk to their players during a play. If a coach talks to his players during a play, he will be penalized 5 yards.* (This is in effect for the entire season, however if a coach does not want to stay on the field, he does not have to.)
20. Midgets will start with the ball on their own 30-yard line instead of kicking off. Midgets and Pee Wee on 4th down; the teams can either punt the ball or the official will move the ball 25 yards down the field if the offensive team is on their side of the 50 yard line or half the distance to the opponents side of the 50 yard line. Same rule applies to punting after a safety. If punting, both teams will take a knee when ball is snapped. Ball will be marked dead when caught by receiving team OR at the spot the ball rolls dead. Only one person can be back receiving the punt. After declaring to punt, there are no fake punts.
21. Midget Division only: Defense cannot line up over center. Defensive player must be at least two (2) yards back (six feet) away from center. Defensive players will not be allowed to line up in the gap between the center and the guard. They must be in a 3 or 4 point stance in front of the guard.

No quarterback sneaks and QB must take one step backward prior to advancing ball up the middle if taking snap under center. Note: This does not apply to shotgun formations.

After a safety, due to not kicking off, the ball will be placed on the 35 yard line on the defensive team's end of the field.

22. Each player must be allowed to play 8 downs in each game including tournament games. (EXCLUDING KICK-OFFS AND DECLARED PUNTS)
23. If a team gets caught playing players less than 8 downs per game. The head coach will be warned for the first offense. The second offense, the coach will be suspended by their department. The individual league officials will be the only ones to enforce this rule. THIS IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LEAGUE OFFICIAL AND THEIR DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE WILL REPRIMAND IF THE COACH IS FOUND GUILTY OF THE OFFENSE ACCORDINGLY.
24. Time on the field is kept by the head official during the game if a scoreboard is not available or operating properly. (8 minute quarters)
25. Overtime - If at the end of regulation the game is a tie, the following overtime procedure will be used for ALL age groups. In the first overtime, the ball will be placed at the 10 (ten) yard line and both teams will have a possession. If after the first overtime the score is still tied, the ball will be placed at the 5 (five) yard line for the second overtime and both teams will have a possession. If after the second overtime the score is still tied, the game will end in a tie. During each overtime, one time out is allowed per team plus the remaining time outs left from the second half.

26. *B.Y.F.C. tournament games will be seeded as a result of regular season record.*
- a. Where the tournament games will be played will be decided each year prior to the start of the season.
 - b. League officials will meet approximately one week before the start of the B.Y.F.C. tournament. The purpose of this meeting will be to go over rules and make sure of each departments responsibilities for the tournament. (A representative must be present from each department)
27. Admission to the tournament/jamboree games will be as follows:
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|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Adults: | \$4.00 (JAMBOREE) | \$4.00 (TOURNAMENT) |
| Children: | \$3.00 (JAMBOREE) | \$3.00 (TOURNAMENT) |
- PLAYERS, COACHES, AND CHEERLEADERS WILL NOT BE CHARGED.
28. Trophies: The cost of trophies will be split between the individual leagues. Players, coaches, and cheerleaders will receive trophies for each conference winner in each age group.
29. Maximum of four adult (coaches) will be allowed on the sidelines for football, and 2 cheerleader coaches. (NO EXCEPTIONS) *There will be NO SMOKING on the sidelines. This includes the chain crew.* PENALTY: Removal from the game. A 15-YARD penalty may be charged. (Chain crew members may not become involved in games)
30. Video camcorders and camera will not be permitted on the sidelines or the press box. The person must be behind the fence or in an area designated by a league representative.
31. 20 POINT RULE -- If a team is trailing by 20 or more points in the second half, the team trailing may opt to let the clock run in the third quarter. However, it is mandatory the clock continue to run in the fourth quarter. The clock will only stop for injuries and time outs. Once the twenty-point deficit has been reached, the clock continues to run even if the deficit goes below 20 points. *(A team winning by 20 points will not be allowed to call time out the last 4 minutes of the game)*
32. All players must play within the boundaries that they reside. (UNLESS LEAGUE IS FULL) MUST GET WRITTEN RELEASE.
33. Players added to rosters, must be submitted in writing to league directors. The following information must be submitted: NAME, AGE, DATE OF BIRTH, WEIGHT, PHONE NUMBER AND PLAYERS JERSEY #. Players will NOT be allowed to play until this information is properly submitted or roster has been properly signed and updated.
34. Points after touchdowns (PAT's)- A successful run/pass will result in one (1)point. A successful kick will result in two (2) points. NOTE: Offensive team will notify referee of intent to kick, who will then notify defense. Once a kick is declared, there are NO fakes. All players, with the exception of snapper, holder, and kicker, will take a knee at the snap. If there is a fumbled or bad snap, the holder is the only player allowed to retrieve the ball and place it down to be kicked. Penalty: Any other player retrieving ball, kicking team will be penalized 5 yards from line of scrimmage.

35. Field Goals (FG's) - Offensive team will notify referee of intent to kick, who will then notify the defense. Once a kick is declared, there are NO fakes. All players, with the exception of snapper, holder, and kicker, will take a knee at the snap. If there is a fumbled or bad snap, the holder is the only player allowed to retrieve the ball and place it down to be kicked.

Note: PAT's (Point after Touchdown) and Field Goals - Kicker can be no farther back than five (5) yards behind the spot of the kicking tee when kicking. Players with red decals ARE allowed to kick PAT'S and Field Goals and also ARE allowed to be on the field taking a knee during both PAT and Field Goal attempts. NOTE: BALL MUST BE KICKED BEFORE THE 25 SECOND HUDDLE CLOCK EXPIRES. PENALTY: LOSE THE RIGHT TO KICK FOR PAT OR FIELD GOAL

36. Punting - (Midget) will inform the referee of their intent to punt. The ball will then be stepped off 25 yards from the line of scrimmage or half the distance to the goal. (Pee Wee) will have the option to inform the referee of their desire to take the yardage of 25 yards or half the distance to the goal or inform the referee they will physically punt the ball. If they desire to physically punt the ball, there will be no rushing the punter and the ball will be marked dead where it is possessed by the receiving team or where it stops dead. (Small Fry and Bantam) will punt the ball at will as a normal play. Red Stickers must line up in formation tackle to tackle as normal. If the punt is blocked and recovered by a red sticker, the play will immediately be blown dead and the ball will be spotted where it was recovered. Rushing the punter and a return on the punt will be allowed in these two leagues. (9/6/17)

(Midget and Pee Wee Only) - If the offensive team is punting the ball from their side of the 50 yard line, the officials will mark the ball 25 yards from the line of scrimmage. If you are punting from your opponent's side of the 50 yard line, the officials will mark the ball half the distance to the goal line. Same rule applies to punting after a safety.

37. All teams participating in BYFC play MUST condition (NO Pads, Helmets ONLY) the first week of practice. This is to include no tackling, hitting, or football contact.

38. **Tie Breaker in this order (9/6/17)-**

- 1) **Head to Head record between tied teams**
- 2) **Least points allowed between tied teams**
- 3) **Coin Flip**