

By-Laws of the
National Public Safety Football League
(includes changes approved on 11/7/2008)

ARTICLE I - NAME

The Name of the Organization shall be the National Public Safety Football League, hereinafter called "The League".

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the organization shall be:

To organize, as a league, law enforcement, firefighter and public safety football programs who participate within the United States of America;

To create an organized, competitive and legitimate environment to crown a National Public Safety Football Champion;

To provide a forum for the discussion and study of all matters pertaining to public safety football and football teams;

To create a legislative body within the League to assist affiliated football programs with league scheduling of football contests, team building and organization and the building of successful charitable organizations within each affiliated program and/or member team;

To build a lawful charitable organization, independent of the existing member (team) charities, to raise funds through the playing of National Championship Contest (and other approved means) and to distribute portions of the proceeds from league activity to approved public safety related charities as well as independent member charities in a manner consistent with applicable laws;

To make all League football contests as safe and entertaining as possible through the rules of play;

To freely exchange information on rules, regulations, sponsorship and promoting of public safety football and the League.

To promote good conduct, fellowship and social contacts within the League and to engender a positive image of public safety departments and public safety personnel to the public.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership within the League shall be open to all football teams whose members (players) are employed as full-time sworn law enforcement officers, fire fighters, emergency medical service or public safety employees from federal, state, or local jurisdictions. Part-time, support auxiliary and non-sworn individuals may serve their respective teams as coaches, training staff or in administrative functions, but will not be permitted to compete.

Section 2: To qualify as a member team, each team must be a registered “not for profit” 501(c)3 organization.

Section 3: Each new team must successfully complete one probationary season, complying with all probationary team requirements as outlined in the NPSFL Rules and Regulations prior to being accepted as a full member team.

ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: BOARD MEMBERS/TEAM REPRESENTATIVES: The League Board of Directors will be composed of one team representative from each N.P.S.F.L. member team, who shall be selected, appointed, chosen or elected internally by their perspective team or organization.

Section 2: ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible as a Board Member, the Member must be or have been active in representing his member team within the League in good standing. Good standing shall be defined as not under probation, suspension, expulsion with team League fees on deposit with the N.P.S.F.L.

Section 3: VACANCIES: In the case of resignation or loss of any Board Member/Team Representative, the League will notify affected team of the vacancy which will cause the team to provide a new representative.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Section 1: The officers of the League shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Director of Finance, a Director of Administration, a Director of Marketing and a Director of Communication.

Section 2: PRESIDENT: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Board, meetings of the Board of Directors of the N.P.S.F.L. and other related meetings involving the League (including team managers, coaches and staff). He shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the League. He shall manage the business of the Corporation or League and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect. He shall have the final vote if a decision is not made.

Section 3: VICE-PRESIDENT: The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in the absence or incapacitation of the President. During the absence or disability of the President, the Vice-President shall have the powers and function of the President.

The Vice-President shall oversee the rules and regulations governing the game of Football for the League.

Section 4: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE: The Director of Finance shall be the fiscal officer of the League funds (League Treasurer). He will have the care and custody of the funds of the League and shall exercise under the supervision of the Executive Board.

He shall deposit or have deposited all the funds of the League in such bank or banks, trust company or with firm or firms doing a banking business as the Executive Board may designate. He may, with the President, on behalf of the League endorse for deposit or collection all checks, notes and other obligations payable to the League and may accept drafts on behalf of the League.

He shall keep accurate books of the property and accounts belonging to the League and will make the League financial records and books available for inspection at League meeting or with reasonable notice of the Executive Board.

Checks, notes, drafts and other obligations for the payment of money shall be countersigned by the President, as a condition to their validity or by such other officer on the Executive Board that the Executive Board specifically designates. The League will require the signatures of the Director of Finance and the President on all checks and/or drafts for payment or disbursement of League funds.

For recording purposes, the NPSFL fiscal year will coincide with the calendar year starting January 1st and concluding December 31st.

Section 5: DIRECTION OF ADMINISTRATION: The Director of Administration shall be the officer to conduct and oversee all events; play-offs and championship games. He shall conduct all administrative responsibilities regarding such events, fundraisers, for the League. He may assist the Director of Finance when needed.

Section 6: DIRECTOR OF MARKETING: The Director of Marketing shall be the officer designated to coordinate matters relating to the public relations of the League. He will assist the principal member teams with obtaining publicity for the League, play-offs and Championship Game through publications and/or electronic means.

The Director of Marketing shall coordinate the creation, marketing and sales of League merchandise, including; tee-shirts, ball hats and other memorabilia to be sold at league functions and the Championship Game.

The Director of Marketing will keep each member team's print quality COLOR LOGO, on file for use by the media and scheduled opposing teams the National Championship Game, for use in publishing and promoting of those contests.

Section 7: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS: The Director of Communications will be the Secretary of the League. In addition, the officer is designated to assist in both areas of public relations and administrative events.

The Director of Communications shall record all minutes of Executive Board and Board of Directors meetings, and have them available for inspection and review.

The Director of Communications will be the Editor in Chief of the Official League Program, which will include the Championship Game Program. He may appoint an editor and/or designate individuals to insure that all matters concerning league publications are fulfilled. He will maintain a clearinghouse of articles, photographs and statistics to assist member teams in the publication of their individual member team's programs.

The Director of Communications will collect or insure the collection of member team programs for each contest where a program is published.

Section 8: OFFICER RANK: Officer rank shall be President, Vice-President, Director of Finance, Director of Administration, Director of Marketing and Director of Communications.

Section 9: ELECTIONS: Officers of the League will be elected by simple majority vote at a called meeting of the League held in the Fall of all even numbered years. All members' representatives from teams in good standing will be eligible to hold elected office, with the exception of the position of President. In order to hold the position of League President, the nominee must have served as an elected officer in a previous League administration. **Each team may have only one representative run for officer on the Executive Board unless it is determined to be in the best interest of the League to have more than one officer from the same team represented. (Approved 11/7/08)**

The League President will appoint a Nominating Committee at the Spring Meeting during even numbered years. This committee will make their report at the fall meeting with their recommendation(s). Nominations may also be made from the floor at the fall meeting

In the case where there are no qualified nominees for the office of League President, the first nominee receiving a super majority of 2/3rds of the quorum present will be named League President.

Section 10: TERMS OF OFFICE: Officers of the League shall serve in their elected positions for two year terms, with elections being held in the Fall of even numbered years, with the exception of the inaugural Executive Board, which will end their term of office in January 1999.

Section 11: IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Beginning with the 1999 term, the position of Immediate Past-President will be established. The immediate Past-President will have the same voting rights as all other members of the Board and will be added to the quorum as an active position on the Executive Board.

The Immediate past President will assume his new board position at the end of his term of office, providing that he holds no other office within the League. If the Past-President accepts another elected office or does not wish to serve, the outgoing or previous Past-President will continue in that position for an additional term.

The position of Immediate past President shall serve independently of each and every team representative. A ballot or vote cast by a member serving, as Past President will be separate from that ballot or vote cast from the Past President's affiliated team. The Past President will not represent his affiliated team during his tenure and will cast only one vote for each issue brought before the League

.If the Immediate Past President is unable or unwilling to assume his/her duties and responsibilities, the previous Past President will be appointed to assume the duties of the Past President position on the Executive Board.

Section 12: VACANCY: In the case of resignation or loss of any officer, the highest ranking officer shall within thirty days, call a board meeting (via U.S. Mail) to fill such vacancy. The purpose of the meeting shall be included in the call. This meeting may be in the form of a conference call or other electronic means.

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1: RESPONSIBILITIES: The Executive Board is composed of the elected officers of the League (and the Immediate Past President beginning in the 1999 term). The Executive Board will be charged to conduct the day-to-day business and the regular management of the League and the League activities. The Executive Board will exercise their duties in a manner consistent with the objectives and purpose of the League, keeping in mind that the League and the Executive Board is not organized for profit.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

Section 1: REGULAR MEETINGS: The Board shall meet at least twice a year at a time and place to be designated by the President. One of the meetings will be held the day prior to the NPSFL Championship Game, at the venue where the game is being held. Attendance at both meetings is mandatory for all teams to maintain their "Team in Good Standing" status. Notice of such meeting will be given to each Board member in writing at least thirty (30) days before such meeting is to take place.

Section 2: SPECIAL MEETINGS: Special meetings of the Board shall be held at any time or place by the call of the League the President with at least seven (7) days notice before such meeting. Each Board Member will be informed either personally by telephone, mail or by wire.

Section 3: QUORUM: A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of by the League. A majority of the quorum present shall decide any action of matter brought before the board.

Section 4: VOTING: Each member team will be afforded one vote for each item of league business brought before the Board of Directors.

Section 5: ALTERNATE BOARD MEMBERS: A Board Member and/or member team may designate an alternate Board Member to act in the place of the primary member, providing a written notice of such appointment is on file with the league. Written notice shall state the name of the member team, names of both the primary and alternate members, the date of appointment and the date of the expiration of said appointment (which will coincide with the terms of office for League officers). The alternate shall have voice and vote at all board meeting in the absence of the primary member.

Section 6: PROXY VOTING: Any member not present at a meeting of the Board of Directors will be permitted to vote by proxy, by filling a notice of such desire with the President before the meeting. The notice of proxy must be in written form designating the name of the proxy holder and the date(s) the proxy will be valid. In the case of a conference call or other electronic meeting, the proxy must be in the hands of the President prior to the call of the meeting. Fax copies may be accepted with a majority vote of the Board members present.

Section 7: MEETING AGENDA: A written agenda for each meeting shall be prepared and submitted by the League President or his designee for each meeting. A sample agenda may include the following:

1. Meeting called to order
2. Reading and approval/amendments to the previous minutes
3. Director of Finance/Treasurer's report
4. Reports by Members of the Executive Board
 - a. Director of Communications (Secretary)
 - b. Director of Marketing
 - c. Director of Administration
 - d. Vice President
 - e. President
5. Reports of other Board Members/Committees
6. Old Business
7. New Business

ARTICLE VIII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1: The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order, Newly revised shall govern the League in all cases to which they are applicable and which they are not inconsistent with these By-laws or any special rule(s) of order the League may adopt. The President may appoint a Parliamentarian from among the membership or outside of the League.

ARTICLE IX - LEAGUE RECORDS

Section 1: INSPECTION OF BOOKS AND PAPERS: All books, papers and documents of every kind and description belonging to the League whether located in the Office of the Executive Board or elsewhere shall be open to the inspection by the members of the Executive Board and Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

Section 1: AMENDMENTS: These by-laws and the Rules & Regulations of the League shall remain in permanent effect throughout successive meetings of the League, subject to the provision herein set forth for amending any part of these By-laws, such amendment(s) to be binding upon the next called meeting of the League.

Section 2: ADOPTION: These By-laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose by a two-thirds vote of the members present at which a quorum is present and voting, provided a copy of the proposed amendment(s) has been given to all members in writing at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which they are to be considered.

Section 3: PROCEDURE: Any proposed amendment to the By Laws or Rules and Regulations of the League may be submitted for consideration by the designated representative of a member team in good standing. The proposed amendment will be submitted in writing to the seated NPSFL executive board for consideration. The recommendation for amendment must be submitted to the President of the League no less than 30 days prior to NPSFL pre annual meeting teleconference.

The executive board will investigate the recommended amendment to the By Laws or Rules and Regulations of the League and determine if the recommendation is viable and would benefit the league. Upon determination by the executive board that the proposed amendment to the By Laws or Rules and Regulations of the League has merit and is beneficial to the league, the President will propose the amendment to the By Laws or Rules and Regulations of the League at the teleconference meeting. The recommended amendment to the By Laws or Rules and Regulations of the League will be discussed by all present member teams. The recommended amendment to the By Laws or Rules and Regulations of the League will then be tabled until the annual NPSFL general meeting. This teleconference will be held not less than 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

At the annual NPSFL regular meeting, the recommended amendment to the By Laws or Rules and Regulations of the League will be presented by the President for further discussion and vote. Each member team will have one vote. A 2/3 majority vote is required for the passing of the proposed amendment. A quorum must be present to conduct the vote.

ARTICLE XI - LEAGUE IDENTIFICATION

Section 1. LEAGUE SEAL/LOGO: The League shall approve a Seal or Logo to be used as an identifying sign or icon. This logo will be used on official correspondence, marketed on League merchandise (to be sold at League events) and used to promote the League and its objective(s). Its use by any other individual or entity or for any other purpose is prohibited without the expressed written permission of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE XII - LEAGUE CONTESTS

Section 1: LEAGUE DIVISIONS: The League shall be divided into two divisions, an Eastern Division and a Western Division. Inter-division play is authorized and will be counted as league contests; however, a member team must play the majority of their contests against division opponents.

Section 2: SCHEDULING: All member team schedules will be approved by the League at the fall meeting of the Board of Directors. The League Executive Board will have the final say concerning conflicting schedules.

Section 3: NON-LEAGUE OPPONENTS/CONTESTS: No member team will schedule a football contest against a non-league opponent without the knowledge and approval of the League Executive Board. Contests against non-league opponents will not be counted toward Official League Standings and/or League Records.

ARTICLE XIII – LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

SECTION 1: NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME: At the conclusion of the NPSFL regular season, two teams will be chosen to compete in the NPSFL National Championship Game. The teams who compete for the National Championship will be determined by the criteria listed in the Rules and Regulations of the League.

The location of the National Championship Game will be decided as follows:

Years ending in odd numbers, the game will be played at the eastern most involved team's venue. Years ending in even numbers, the game will be played at the western most involved team's venue.

EXCEPTION: The involved teams may choose to hold the game at mutually agreed upon venue.

SECTION 2: DIVISION 2 CHAMPIONSHIP: At the conclusion of the NPSFL regular season, two teams will be chosen to compete in the NPSFL Division 2 Championship Game. The teams who compete for the Division 2 Championship will be determined by the criteria listed in the Rules and Regulations of the League.

ARTICLE XV – GENDER

Section 1: These by-laws and the League shall remain gender neutral.

The National Public Safety Football League adopts these By-laws as approved by the Executive Board on November 7, 2008.

Troy A. Roberts, President

Ruth Bullock, Dir. of Communication

James Costello, Vice-President

Ivan Gunter, Dir. of Marketing

Brett Friedman, Dir. of Finance

John Curry, Dir. of Administration

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