

# **Greater Miami Youth Football Conference (GMYFC)**

## **By-Laws**

### *Article I – Name*

- 1.0** The name of this organization shall be the Greater Miami Youth Football Conference; hereinafter, referred to as the “GMYFC”.

### *Article II – Purpose & Mission*

- 2.0** The GMYFC has been formed to become the premier conference to provide competitive tackle football for youth residing in those Ohio High School Districts comprising the Greater Miami Conference (GMC).
- 2.1** The GMC is currently comprised of the following Ohio High School Districts: Colerain, Fairfield, Hamilton, Lakota East, Lakota West, Mason, Middletown, Oak Hills, Princeton and Sycamore.
- 2.2** The mission of the GMYFC is to prepare its participants to succeed in the sport of football at the GMC Interscholastic level, while promoting participant safety and instilling the values of teamwork, fair play and sportsmanship.
- 2.3** In fulfilling its mission, the GMYFC shall endeavor to foster relationships and communication to and between its Affiliates and the member High School Districts of the GMC, while conducting its affairs in a professional manner that reflects the high standards and objectives of all endorsing parties.

### *Article III – Affiliate*

- 3.0** An “Affiliate” is hereby defined as an independent youth football organization, which, upon satisfying the provisions and requirements of these By-Laws, is accepted by the GMYFC for affiliation and participation.
- 3.1** An Affiliate, throughout its affiliation with the GMYFC, shall continue to satisfy and abide by all provisions of these By-Laws, together with any Rules, Regulations, Policies, Orders or Procedures subsequently adopted and promulgated by the GMYFC.
- 3.2** An Affiliate, if found to be in violation Article 3.1, may be subject to Disciplinary Action including, but not limited to, Forfeit, Penalty, Sanction, Probation or Termination of its affiliation.

### *Article IV – GMC Requirement*

- 4.0** Except as provided in Article XIX, an Affiliate must be solely comprised of student athletes (players) who reside within the official residential boundaries of its High School District that is a football participating member of the GMC.
- 4.1** A maximum of only one (1) Affiliate may be accepted by the GMYFC, at any time, to represent each High School District of the GMC.

- 4.2 Whenever, and for whatever reason, a High School District of the GMC is not represented by an Affiliate; the GMYFC shall solicit and consider applications to fill such vacancy. This provision applies also to any expansion, or change of membership, within the GMC.
- 4.3 Whenever a High School District ceases its football participation in the GMC, the GMYFC shall be empowered to terminate the Affiliate representing such High School District, provided a minimum of one full season is afforded the Affiliate to find an alternate league or conference.

#### *Article V – Governing Panel & Delegates*

- 5.0 A Governing Panel; hereinafter, referred to as the “Panel”, shall govern and decide all matters, without limitation, which shall include, but not be limited to, Affiliate membership, all operations, rules, regulations, policies and procedures of the GMYFC, including their interpretation and that of these By-Laws. All rulings and decisions of the Panel shall be final.

The Panel shall be comprised of one (1) representative from each Affiliate, such person hereinafter, referred to as a “Delegate”. Each Delegate shall be appointed and empowered by his/her Affiliate organization to represent its interests and shall be entitled to one (1) vote on all matters that may come before the Panel.

- 5.1 The Panel shall identify, establish and adopt Rules, Regulations, Procedures or Policies necessary to conduct, or monitor, all operations and processes within the GMYFC, provided such are not in conflict with, or contrary to, any provision of these By-Laws.
- 5.2 Each Affiliate may appoint an Alternate Delegate to attend meetings of the GMYFC, but such Alternate shall have no voting authority except in the absence of the Affiliate’s primary Delegate.
- 5.3 Delegates, or their Alternates, shall be responsible for assuring all GMYFC news, rules, procedures or updates are distributed throughout their respective Affiliate organizations.

#### *Article VI – Commissioner*

- 6.0 A Commissioner shall be appointed for each season to administer the needs of the GMYFC. Duties shall include scheduling and presiding over GMYFC meetings, preparing an agenda and recording the minutes of such meetings, distributing rules, procedures, updates or similar to the heads of the Affiliate organizations, administering the routine enforcement of these By-Laws and any rules or regulations of the GMYFC, monitoring any GMYFC web site, and acting as a liaison to the GMC schools and their Athletic Directors.

The Commissioner, for any upcoming season, shall be determined at the first preceding October meeting of the GMYFC. The process shall include a blind draw from a list of Affiliate organizations. Upon selection, the Affiliate shall appoint a person from within its organization to serve as Commissioner.

- 6.1 No Affiliate shall be selected and permitted to appoint the Commissioner for two consecutive terms.
- 6.2 The term of the Commissioner shall commence on January 1 and expire on December 31.
- 6.3 A newly appointed Commissioner shall commence a transition period on November 1 of the appointed year, acting in conjunction with any existing Commissioner. However, all duties and privileges of the office shall remain with the existing Commissioner, if one exists, until the end of his/her term.

- 6.4 Effective November 1, 2012, the appointed GMYFC Commissioner to serve until December 31, 2013 shall be Greg Stochinsky of the Oak Hills Affiliate.
- 6.5 If, for any reason, a Commissioner is unable to fulfill his/her term, the respective Affiliate organization shall appoint a replacement person to serve as Commissioner for the balance of the term.
- 6.6 If, by 2/3 majority vote of all Delegates to the Panel, the active Commissioner is determined to be unsuitable for office, a replacement Commissioner shall be appointed, as provided in Article 6.5.
- 6.7 Whenever an existing Delegate is appointed as Commissioner, then upon commencing his/her term, the respective Affiliate organization shall appoint a replacement Delegate to the Panel.
- 6.8 The Commissioner shall not be entitled to a “vote” on any matter before the Panel where a majority of the Delegates are in consensus. Only in the event of a tie, or when no majority consensus among the Delegates can be determined, shall the Commissioner be entitled to cast a “tie-breaking” vote.
- 6.9 The Commissioner shall establish a convenient Post Office Box Address, which will become the official GMYFC mailing address during the Commissioner’s term.

#### *Article VII – Meetings*

- 7.0 The Commissioner shall, upon approval of the Panel, prepare a meeting calendar for each calendar year. Whenever possible, meetings shall be consistently scheduled once per month.

No official meeting may be held, or matters voted upon, unless a majority of all Delegates to the Panel, or their Alternates, are in attendance.

- 7.1 Unless authorized otherwise for a specific purpose, all meetings shall be “closed” and attended only by the Commissioner, Delegates to the Panel (or their Alternates) and any GMYFC support personnel approved by the Panel for such purpose.
- 7.2 Provided a majority of all Delegates to the Panel (or their Alternates) are in attendance, the Commissioner shall call for a vote on all matters or motions before the Panel. The results of all such votes shall be recorded and incorporated into the minutes of the meeting.
- 7.3 The vote on any matter or motion shall be considered “passed” or “rejected” when a majority of the participating Delegates (or their Alternates) are in consensus. In the event of a “tie” vote, the Commissioner may then cast a tie-breaking vote, or table the matter to the next meeting.
- 7.4 In the event the Commissioner is absent from any scheduled meeting, the Delegate representing the Commissioner’s Affiliate shall preside over the meeting and record the minutes.
- 7.5 In the event an urgent matter arises that, in the opinion of the Commissioner, should be addressed by the Panel prior to the next scheduled meeting, the Commissioner shall notify all Delegates to the Panel of the matter by any available electronic means. Delegates, by electronic correspondence, may then choose to vote on the matter by email, or table it to the next meeting. If a vote on such a matter is held, a consensus must be a majority agreement of all Delegates, the results to be incorporated into the minutes of the next meeting. In the event of a tied vote among the Delegates, the Commissioner shall not be entitled to a “tie-breaking” vote and the matter shall be tabled to the next meeting.

### *Article VIII – Teams, Grade Levels, Groups and Divisions*

**8.0** Teams competing within the GMYFC shall be Grade Level based and be solely comprised of players in scholastic grades K1, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

Each Affiliate, without exception, must be able to field a team for each Grade Level. The collective grouping of its teams, K1 through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, inclusive, shall be hereinafter, referred to as a “Group”.

**8.1** A maximum age limitation, for eligible participation, shall be established for each Grade Level.

**8.2** A team must have a minimum of 14 eligible and registered players to commence a season.

**8.3** Any player, at the discretion of his Affiliate, may play up one Grade Level. However, once game play commences, such player must continue to participate at his registered Grade Level and shall not be permitted to change teams.

**8.4** No player, without exception, may play down a Grade Level. Where a team is comprised of players of multiple Grade Levels, such team must compete at the higher Grade Level. EXAMPLE: a team that is comprised of thirteen 4<sup>th</sup> Graders and one 5<sup>th</sup> Grader must compete at the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Level.

**8.5** The GMYFC does not offer 7<sup>th</sup> Grade football. Accordingly, no player enrolled in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, regardless of age or size, may participate in the GMYFC.

**8.6** Each Group of an Affiliate shall be identified by a Name, and the teams within such Group shall wear identical uniforms, representative of its GMC School colors. For name purposes, the Affiliate may designate any Group name it chooses.

**8.7** An Affiliate may enter more than one Group for competition, provided each Group is complete with teams participating at each Grade Level, K1 through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, inclusive. Such multiple Groups shall each be given a unique Name identifier, as well as unique and distinct uniforms, representative of their GMC school colors.

**8.8** The GMYFC, in order to create fair competition, and when feasible, shall create multiple Divisions for game play. For each season, Groups shall be assigned to Divisions based upon the aggregate relative and comparative strength and experience level of the teams comprising each Group. The GMYFC may appoint a competition committee to oversee parity of such Division assignments.

**8.9** When an Affiliate enters more than one Group for competition, the Affiliate shall submit an opinion of the relative and comparable strength and experience of the teams comprising each Group. Such opinions, together with prior performance records, shall be taken into consideration for the purpose of making each season’s Division assignments.

**8.10** For game scheduling purposes, during regular season play, the teams comprising a Group shall be scheduled to host, or travel, together as a Group. Game start times shall be consistent throughout the GMYFC, with K1 being the first game of the day and continuing in progression of Grade Levels. Game Days may be either Saturday or Sunday. This provision may not apply to post season playoffs.

**8.11** If any team is unable to begin a game with a minimum of 11 players, that team shall notify the field official and shall endeavor to play the game by temporarily supplementing its roster to a maximum of 14 players. Such temporary players must be drawn from the next younger Grade Level and from within the same Group. Officially, regardless of outcome, the game shall be recorded as a forfeit.

- 8.12** In the event an Affiliate fails to satisfactorily field a complete Group, or to field teams for each Grade Level within a Group, said Affiliate shall be placed on immediate probation. The Panel shall subsequently review mitigating circumstances to determine whether further sanctions are warranted.
- 8.13** The GMYFC, upon realizing adequate growth within its Affiliates, may elect to additionally offer a recreational level of football for which significantly different eligibility, weight and playing rules may apply. However, no such election may be made in favor of suspending, or abandoning, the high competition level of football, with unlimited weight participation, upon which the GMYFC is founded.

***Article IX – Player Eligibility, Rosters and Validation***

- 9.0** The GMYFC shall establish a date each year on which Team Rosters shall be closed for the current season.

Similarly, a date shall be established on which the GMYFC will conduct its process of validating player weights and eligibility. Required documentation may include Player Contract, Photograph, Birth Certificate, Proof of Residence and/or Grade Level Verification.

It shall be the responsibility of each Head Coach to gather, verify, organize and submit a Roster Book, as prescribed by the GMYFC, containing the required documentation for each player on his roster. Failure to timely and efficiently perform this duty may result in forfeit of the first regular season game.

Willful falsification or misrepresentation of player documentation, or willful playing of an ineligible player, shall result in any, or all, of the following penalties: a) forfeit of all games in which the subject player participated, and, b) termination of the subject player and his immediate family from further GMYFC participation, and, c) permanent termination of the Head Coach from the GMYFC, and, d) sanctions against the Affiliate.

- 9.1** Except as provided in Article XIX, all players must reside within the official residential boundaries of a High School District that is a football participating member of the GMC.
- 9.2** Players are only eligible to play for the Affiliate representing the GMC High School District in which they reside.
- 9.3** Change of residence to another GMC High School District. If such an address change occurs prior to August 10, player eligibility shall transfer to the acquiring Affiliate. If the address change occurs on or after August 10, player shall be granted the option of finishing the season with his former Affiliate.
- 9.4** Change of residence to a non-GMC High School District. If such an address change occurs prior to August 10, player eligibility within the GMYFC shall terminate. If the address change occurs on or after August 10, player shall be granted the option of finishing the season with his former Affiliate.
- 9.5** No player may be added to a Team Roster after the date established by the GMYFC to close Team Rosters for the current season.
- 9.6** No player may participate in a GMYFC game until his eligibility is validated and certified by a GMYFC official.
- 9.7** No player may participate in the GMYFC while, at any time during the same season, participating in another football program.

- 9.8** Each team shall be required to maintain a Field Book containing validated roster records, as may be specified by Rule or Procedure. Each Field Book shall be available for inspection on Game Days. Incomplete or non-validated records for any specific player shall result in disqualification of that player. Failure or refusal to produce the Field Book, on demand, shall result in game forfeit.

### *Article X – Player Weight and Weigh-In*

- 10.0** The GMYFC shall offer an Unlimited Weight policy for player participation. Weight restrictions, if any, shall apply only to Offensive Backfield positions.

A date and location shall be established at which the GMYFC will conduct its process of validating player weights and eligibility. All teams and players shall participate in this weigh-in and validation process.

It shall be the responsibility of each Head Coach to have his team assembled at the designated time and location. Failure to adequately perform this duty may result in forfeit of the first regular season game.

- 10.1** The GMYFC shall establish the Offensive Backfield Weight restriction for each Grade Level.

- 10.2** No weight restrictions, for any positions or players, shall apply to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade teams. However, all such teams and players shall participate in the Weigh-In validation for statistical recording purposes.

- 10.3** Only one validation Weigh-In shall be required per season. Players must be wearing their Game Jersey, but, if wearing socks, shall be permitted to remove shoes. The recorded weight shall be official and shall determine that player's position eligibility for the remainder of the season. No secondary or recertification of weight shall be permitted.

- 10.4** In the event any player is absent from the mandatory Weigh-In, such player, regardless of his apparent size, shall be declared ineligible to play an Offensive Backfield position for the remainder of the season. No secondary or recertification of weight shall be permitted.

- 10.5** The GMYFC shall establish the method and procedure to either clearly identify those players who will be eligible to play Offensive Backfield positions, or those who are ineligible and may not.

- 10.6** Inadvertent participation by an ineligible player at an Offensive Backfield position shall result in a 15-yard penalty against the offending team. A second occurrence within the same game shall additionally result in ejection of the Head Coach from the game.

- 10.7** Willful and intentional illegal participation by an ineligible player at an Offensive Backfield position, as evidenced by an effort to conceal or alter the methods intended to identify such eligible players, shall result in game forfeit and suspension of the Head Coach for the remainder of the season.

### *Article XI – Practices*

- 11.0** The GMYFC shall establish the official start date to begin practices. No team meetings, practices or football instruction may occur during the three-week period prior to the official start date.

This provision is not intended to prohibit teams from gathering purely for a social purposes, nor is it intended to prohibit players from attending a late High School football camp, or similar, provided such camp is not

being held for the sole and exclusive benefit of an Affiliate's players. There shall be no violation if such late camp is offered to the general public and all participants are required to pay the same camp fee.

Further, this Article is not intended to prohibit Affiliates, teams or players from participation in football related sporting events, or tournaments, held during the winter or spring off-season.

**11.1** Violation of this Article shall result in the forfeit of the first regular season game(s) by the offending team and/or Affiliate.

### ***Article XII – Game Rules and Officiating***

**12.0** The GMYFC shall adopt the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) rules for Football, as they may be amended from season to season, as its basic guide for game rules and their interpretation.

Provided they are not less restrictive and intended to enhance safety or quality of youth play, the GMYFC may adopt modifications or changes to the OHSAA rules. All such rule modifications, if any, shall be published annually in the Rules & Regulations of the GMYFC and may differ for each Grade Level.

The GMYFC shall endeavor to employ qualified Game Officials to officiate GMYFC contests. The compensation for Officials shall be negotiated by the GMYFC, but shall be paid directly by each hosting Affiliate from its gate admission or concession receipts.

**12.1** For K1 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade contests, two Officials shall be employed.

**12.2** For 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade contests, inclusive, three Officials shall be employed.

**12.3** For Superbowl / Championship contests only, four Officials shall be employed.

**12.4** The GMYFC shall implement a monitoring process to evaluate the efficiency and unbiased quality of its Game Officials.

**12.5** The GMYFC shall determine the official game ball, its size and composition; to be used at all games. No substitutions shall be permitted.

**12.6** Scouting shall be permitted, subject to Rule clarification.

### ***Article XIII – Game Facilities***

**13.0** To be considered for game hosting purposes, each Affiliate must be able to provide the minimum facility standards specified herein.

**13.1** The playing field must be a regulation size football field, properly lined and allowing for team boxes.

**13.2** There shall be an operational scoreboard with clock. A public address system is preferred, but not required.

**13.3** There shall be separate restroom facilities for men and women.

- 13.4 There shall be a spectator area parallel to at least one sideline. Such spectator area shall be roped or fenced separately from the team box, allowing a sufficient setback from the team box to permit Cheer squads to perform.
- 13.5 Gate admission fee shall be at a rate schedule established by the GMYFC. The hosting Affiliate shall be permitted to retain all gate receipts, but shall be required to directly pay Game Officials.
- 13.6 Players, cheerleaders, game officials and coaches with GMYFC credentials shall not be required to pay a gate admission.
- 13.7 Excluding a team cooler and player / cheerleader water bottles, no food or beverage containers shall be permitted to enter the gate.
- 13.8 The hosting Affiliate shall furnish game balls that are in a new, or similar, condition.
- 13.9 No pets, whether leashed or not, shall be permitted.
- 13.10 No alcohol or use of tobacco products shall be permitted.
- 13.11 Each hosting Affiliate is encouraged to offer Concessions, but is not required to do so.
- 13.12 The GMYFC shall issue uniform guidelines with respect to still photography and videotaping.
- 13.13 To be considered as a potential hosting site for Playoff or Championship games, preference shall be given to those site venues offering substantial seating capacity, full concessions capability and an artificial field-turf playing surface.
- 13.14 The Affiliate selected to host Championship games shall provide Trophies and/or Medals, of a size and standard established by the GMYFC, for presentation following each Championship game. An increase to the customary gate fee shall be granted to offset this expense.

#### *Article XIV – Coaches and Sideline Rules*

- 14.0 All coaches within the GMYFC shall be held to the highest standards regarding conduct and sportsmanship. Affiliates are encouraged to require all coaches within their respective organizations to undergo a background check and to pass a coaching certification course.
  - 14.1 Each team shall be issued official GMYFC badge credentials. A maximum of eight (8) badges per team may be issued for football coaches or trainers, plus an additional maximum of two (2) badges for cheer coaches.
  - 14.2 Only those coaches wearing an Affiliate's official coach shirt and displaying his/her official GMYFC badge credentials shall be granted free admission at game venues.
  - 14.3 A maximum of eight (8) coaches or trainers may be on a sideline or within the team box. All must be wearing the Affiliate's official coach shirt and be displaying their official GMYFC badge credentials. Excluding players, no other persons shall be permitted on the sideline or within the team box. Violation of this rule shall result in a 15-yard unsportsmanlike conduct penalty.
  - 14.4 All Head Coaches shall be held accountable for the conduct of their players, staff and spectators.



- 14.5** Any game ejection of a sideline member of a coaching staff shall also result in the immediate ejection of the Head Coach.
- 14.6** Any coach ejected from a game shall also be suspended from the next subsequent game and placed on probation for the remainder of the season. A second ejection occurring within the same season shall result in a permanent suspension of coaching privileges for the balance of that season.
- 14.7** Any willful and intentional violation of rules pertaining to player eligibility, or gross misconduct with respect to sportsmanship, shall result in suspension for the remainder of the season; and, upon review by the Panel, may result in the permanent termination of the offending party and/or the Head Coach.
- 14.8** Any coach facing multiple game suspension or termination may request, and shall be granted, a hearing to present mitigating circumstances. The decision of the Panel shall be final.

#### ***Article XV – Participant & Spectator Conduct***

- 15.0** The GMYFC is a family friendly program and encourages all participants to invite family and friends to be supportive fans and spectators. Accordingly, parents shall be required to sign a GMYFC Sportsmanship & Conduct form, which shall be kept on file by their Affiliate.

No person shall become unruly, disorderly, belligerent or display obnoxious behavior, including any remarks to harass, intimidate or ridicule opposing coaches, players or cheerleaders, their spectators, or game officials.

- 15.1** A first offense shall result in a verbal warning by the site administrator. If he or she persists in offensive behavior, becomes physically threatening or violent, or is perceived to be intoxicated, police shall be summoned and the offender shall be removed from the game.
- 15.2** Any person(s) removed from a game in accordance with Article 15.1 shall subsequently be suspended from attending all GMYFC events and games for the remainder of the season.
- 15.3** If, in their sole opinion, their ability to control and manage a game is threatened, Game Officials shall have the authority to halt the game and/or award the game to the offended team by forfeiture.

#### ***Article XVI – Disciplinary Actions***

- 16.0** The Rules & Regulations of the GMYFC, together with these By-Laws, identify various rule violations, situations, events or conditions for which, in the event of their occurrence, shall result in penalty or Disciplinary Action taken against an offending Affiliate, team, coach and/or other persons involved.

The extent of any penalty or Disciplinary Action may include, but shall not be limited to, verbal or written warnings, in-game yardage assessments, game ejection, game forfeit, probation, suspension or termination.

The harshest of Disciplinary Actions shall apply to the participation of ineligible players and gross misconduct with respect to sportsmanship.

An Affiliate in violation may be subject to further sanctions, which may include, but shall not be limited to, suspension of game hosting privileges, game forfeitures and suspension from playoff participation.

- 16.1** Any person facing multiple game suspension or termination may request, and shall be granted, a hearing to present mitigating circumstances. The decision of the Panel shall be final.
- 16.2** No Affiliate may be terminated by the GMYFC unless a minimum of one full season is afforded the Affiliate, to find an alternate league or conference, after said Notice of Termination is issued.

#### ***Article XVII – Affiliate Resignation***

- 17.0** An Affiliate may resign its association and withdraw from the GMYFC by submitting a Letter of Resignation to the Commissioner of the GMYFC. A minimum of one full season advance written notice must be provided prior to the effective date of the withdrawal.
- 17.1** A sudden abandonment of affiliation, or failure to provide a minimum one full season advance written notice of intent to withdraw, will cause irreparable harm to the GMYFC and its remaining Affiliates, and shall entitle the GMYFC to monetary damages totaling \$10,000, to be divided equally among its remaining Affiliates.
- 17.2** In the event an Affiliate dissolves, and ceases its football operations, any claim for monetary damages shall be waived.

#### ***Article XVIII – Amendments and Revisions***

- 18.0** These By-Laws shall be subject to review and discussion at the first GMYFC meeting of each calendar year. An Affiliate, through its Delegate, may propose changes or revisions to be considered. Any such proposal may be discussed, but the topic shall then be tabled until the next meeting, at which a formal motion for revision may be submitted and voted upon.

Any proposed amendment, change or revision to these By-Laws must be approved by a 2/3 majority of all Delegates to the Panel. If approved, such amendment, change or revision shall be put to writing for signature of the Delegates at the next subsequent meeting.

- 18.1** No amendment, change or revision to these By-Laws shall be permitted if passage would result in any modification to the mission or purpose of the GMYFC, or to the core values upon which it is founded.
- 18.2** In the event of a complete dissolution of the GMC, upon which the GMYFC is based, these By-Laws may be entirely revised to create a new league or conference for the benefit of its Affiliates.

#### ***Article XIX – Exception I – Conditional Waiver of Residency Requirement***

- 19.0** The GMYFC hereby recognizes that one or more proposed Affiliates may currently have one or more players on team rosters that would be unable to satisfy the GMC Residency Requirements of these By-Laws. Further, it has been determined that declaring such players to be ineligible to participate in the GMYFC would be unreasonable, adversely impacting those players, their families and the proposed Affiliates.

Therefore, provided all criteria set forth herein are satisfied, a conditional limited waiver of the GMC Residency Requirements of these By-Laws shall be extended to qualifying players and their families.

- 19.1 To qualify for this conditional waiver, each proposed Affiliate must officially endorse these By-Laws by December 15, 2012, and agree to compete within the GMYFC effective with the 2013 season. Further, a detailed listing of qualifying players must be submitted to the Commissioner by January 15, 2013, the data to include team identification, head coach, player and parent names, street address, grade level and school district of residence.
- 19.2 Qualifying players, without exception, must have been listed on an official team roster of a potential Affiliate for the most recent 2012 season.
- 19.3 Qualifying players, without exception, must satisfy all other GMYFC eligibility requirements for each season this waiver is extended.
- 19.4 This waiver shall immediately terminate for any player who does not participate in each successive season of eligibility. EXAMPLE: a 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade player qualifies and plays under this waiver in 2013. He does not play in 2014. Waiver is terminated. Player is no longer eligible to qualify for this waiver.
- 19.5 In the event a qualifying player changes primary residence prior to August 10, and moves into a GMC School District represented by another Affiliate, this waiver shall immediately terminate and GMYFC eligibility shall transfer to the acquiring Affiliate.
- 19.6 Provided a player continues, without interruption, to qualify for this waiver, and a younger sibling enters the K1 program of the same Affiliate, this waiver shall extend to the sibling. For each successive season, the same qualifying criteria shall apply to the sibling. EXAMPLE: a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade player qualifies and plays under this waiver in 2013, 2014 and 2015. For 2015, a younger sibling enters the K1 program of the same Affiliate. This waiver is extended to the sibling.

***Article XX – Exception II – Affiliate Representation for Lakota East and Lakota West***

- 20.0 Lakota East and Lakota West, two distinct High Schools within the Lakota Local School District, are both GMC High School Districts. The proposed Lakota Affiliate, the Lakota Tomahawks, has teams randomly comprised of players residing throughout the Lakota system. The Tomahawks are unable to immediately separate their teams and rosters in accordance with the East & West High School residential boundaries.

Therefore, provided the Tomahawks officially endorse these By-Laws by December 15, 2012, and agree to compete within the GMYFC effective with the 2013 season, this Exception grants an extension of time to complete their transition to East and West Groups, in accordance with these By-Laws. To avoid possible sanctions, the transition must be satisfactorily completed, for all Grade Levels, by August 1, 2017.

- 20.1 During its transition, the Tomahawks shall be entitled to one (1) Delegate seat on the Panel.
- 20.2 Upon completion of the transition, two (2) Delegate seats on the Panel shall be afforded; one (1) representing Lakota East, and one (1) representing Lakota West.

**WHEREAS**, if any provision of these By-Laws is held to be invalid in any court of equity, such provision shall amend to conform to law; and all remaining Articles, and their provisions, shall endure and remain in full force.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties endorsing hereto hereby agree to each of the following affirmations:

- 1) Endorser is authorized, on behalf of his/her organization, to contractually commit such organization to these By-Laws and to the GMYFC.
- 2) Endorser affirms that his/her organization will participate and compete within the GMYFC, effective with the 2013 season.
- 3) Endorser affirms that his/her organization can enter one or more Groups of teams, each Group consisting of teams in grades K1 through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, inclusive, to compete within the GMYFC in 2013.
- 4) Endorser affirms that his/her organization can satisfy all minimum standards and requirements of a GMYFC Affiliate, in accordance with these By-laws.

COLERAIN AFFILIATE:

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HAMILTON AFFILIATE:

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MASON AFFILIATE:

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OAK HILLS AFFILIATE:

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