

# ***PENINSULA PARISHES/SCHOOLS LEAGUE***

## ***SECTION 3: GENERAL RULES***

***THE PPSL LEAGUE WILL OPERATE ALL PROGRAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARCHDIOCESAN POLICIES REGARDING THE SCREENING AND TRAINING OF ATHLETIC DIRECTORS, COMMISSIONERS, COACHES AND OTHER ADULTS WITH REGULAR CONTACT WITH CHILDREN. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS AGREED TO EMPLOY METHODS THAT WOULD INSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE ARCHDIOCESAN POLICIES AND TO REQUIRE APPROPRIATE SCREENING AND TRAINING FOR THE UPCOMING SPORTS SEASON. (BYLAWS: ART. I, SEC. I)***

***IF HEAD COACHES OR ASSISTANT COACHES HAVE NOT COMPLETED THE NECESSARY SCREENING AND TRAINING THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO COACH OR PRACTICE WITH THEIR TEAM(S) AND ANY GAMES PLAYED WITH A NON-COMPLIANT COACH PARTICIPATING WOULD BE FORFEITED***

***3.1 DEADLINES:*** Prior to the start of each sport season, the Conference Director will set a date which will be used as a deadline for all member parishes/schools to submit the number of teams, the grade level of teams, and the number of participants that they wish to sponsor. No teams will be added after the deadline. Any member that wishes to drop a team(s) after the deadline may do so but will be subject to the following penalties. The members dropping a team(s) will pay 100% of the fee charged for each participating team in addition to a \$100.00 re-scheduling fee.

***3.2 GENDER:*** Boys may not be on the roster of any team or participate in any activity designated as a girls' sport. Girls may not be on the roster of any team or participate in any activity designated as a boys' sport. ***PENALTY:*** Forfeiture of the game(s).

***3.3 SKILL LEVELS:*** Participants in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade may not be divided according to skill levels. Participants in grades 5 through 8 shall be placed on teams according to skill levels. Athletes with higher skill levels must participate on the strongest level available to their grade levels. Complaints regarding stronger players participating at inappropriate levels must be made to the League Commissioner. The League Commissioner shall gather information and present the complaint to the Conference Director. The Conference Director will present the complaint to the Executive Board for their review. The decision of the Executive Board shall be final.

***3.4 PARTICIPATION:*** Any participant(s) who drop(s) from a team after the deadline date (see rule 3.1 above) will not be allowed to participate in the same sport the following season. Upon the written recommendation of a pastor or school principal, the participant may petition the PPSL Executive Board to have this rule waived. The name of any participant who drops from a team must be immediately reported to the PPSL League Commissioner of that sport. The League Commissioner will notify the Conference Director. Participants must participate in at least 50% of league games in order to be eligible to participate in playoff and/or championship games. Track participants must participate in two (2) league meets to be eligible to participate in the Divisional Meets. [40%]. Exceptions may be made only for academic or medical reasons and must be approved by the Conference Director or the Executive Board. ***PENALTY:*** Forfeiture of the game(s).

**3.5 TEAM PARTICIPTION:** No team of a member parish/school will be allowed to participate in any league not sponsored by the PPSL. Also, no member parish/school or its affiliates may pay for the participation in any league event not sponsored by the PPSL. The only exception will be:

Team members may participate in non-league sponsored tournaments only with prior approval of pastor and/or school principal. Practice games scheduled between member and non-member parishes/schools.

**3.6 ROSTERS:** Each eligible participant must be assigned to the roster of a specific team in a specific division and must remain on that team for the entire season. No team members may be placed on a roster after the team's first league game. An exception to this rule may be made for a transfer student. The application, for the addition of a transfer student, shall be made by the: Athletic Director, the Pastor and or Principal, or the Commissioner of the member parish/school involved to the Conference Director. Team rosters must be submitted to the PPSL Conference Director, [The deadline date for submission of team rosters will be set by the Conference Director]. Track Team rosters will be submitted to the PPSL Track Commissioner, [At the annual track meeting, the deadline date for submission of track team rosters will be set by the Track League Commissioner]. All Team Rosters must be submitted on the official team roster form, may not be handwritten and must include the grade, first names, and last names of all participants. To be eligible to coach, the rosters must also include the first and last names of all coaches and must be signed by both Pastors and Principals. *PENALTY:* Forfeiture of game(s).

**3.7 FORFEITURE PREVENTION:** An exception may be made to Rule #3.6. If a team needs to add a participant to prevent a forfeit, that participant may only be "pulled up" once per season. For purposes of this section a season shall include all league games, playoff games, and championship games. A participant may be "pulled up" by more than one qualifying team during a season. "Pulled up" players must be on the roster of another team from the parish/school requesting "the pull up". When participants are "pulled up" to prevent a forfeit, no more that the minimum amount of required players may be in the official scoreboard. When School Sport Commissioners "pull up" participants they must report the name of each player "pulled up" to the League Sport Commissioner. *PENALTY:* Forfeiture of the game(s).

**3.8 GAME PARTICIPATION:** Each team member present must participate in every game played. Each team member must participate in that portion of the game required by the specific PPSL rules governing that sport. Participants that are unable to achieve the required amount of participation because of medical reasons may be granted a waiver. A request for limited participation, due to medical reasons, may be granted by the Conference Director. A waiver will only be granted upon the receipt of a written note from the participant's doctor. This note will be kept on file by the Conference Director. A coach must notify the opposing coach at any time that a participant is unable to participate for any reason. The non-participating player may sit on the bench with his team. *PENALTY:* Forfeiture of the game(s).

**3.9 AGE REQUIREMENT:** Children in grades K-3 are not allowed to participate in PPSL activities. These children may not participate in any practice, training, or any PPSL athletic event. Fourth grade teams may participate in league games, but these games will be considered training league games. No game scores will be recorded and no league standings will be maintained for training league teams.

**3.10 PLAYOFFS:** Division playoffs and North/South championships will be held for the Varsity, Junior Varsity, Sharks, Eagles and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Lions Divisions.

**3.11 AWARDS:** The PPSL will provide awards to teams winning the division and to teams winning the league championship.

**3.12 TOURNAMENTS:** The PPSL will sponsor a Varsity basketball tournament for both boys and girls each season.

**3.13 BEHAVIOR:** Each member parish/school shall designate a representative to supervise the conduct of participants and spectators at its home events. Illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, and smoking will not be allowed on the benches, fields, courts, or in the stands at any PPSL event. Coaches, Athletic Directors, and designated representatives will be responsible for the behavior of their teams and fans at all times.

**3.14 SPORTSMANSHIP:** The Athletic Director or designated representative from the home team has the authority to eject any spectator from the premises for any sportsmanship violations. The referee or umpire has the authority to eject any player, coach, parent, or spectator from the premises for any sportsmanship violations. When any player, coach, parent, or spectator is ejected from the premises and refuses to leave, the game or event will be forfeited. Any player, coach, parent, or spectator that is ejected from a game or event is automatically prohibited from attending that team's next league game.

**3.15 SPORTSMANSHIP REVIEWS:** Sportsmanship violations and misconduct violations will be reviewed by the Conference Director. Further actions may be taken by the Executive Board and may include banning the violator from attending games or events for the remainder of the season or even permanent exclusion from all future PPSL events.

**3.16 PROTESTS:** All protests must be made at the time of the alleged infraction(s), opposing coaches, and/or game officials must be made aware of the protest at the time of the alleged infraction. The League Sport Commissioner must be notified by 10:00 P.M. of the day of the contested event. The informal notification must be followed by a written protest filed with the League Sport Commissioner and the Conference Director within 72 hours of the completion of the event. The Conference Director will notify the pastors/principals of the parishes/schools involved by telephone. Copies of the written protest will be sent to the pastor/principal of the parishes/schools involved by the Conference Director. The Conference Director and League Sport Commissioner will review the protest, consult with the North and South League representative(s), and make the final determination. Protests at playoff and league championship games must be made to the official on-site league representative at the time of the infraction, prior to the completion of the game or event. A final decision will be made by the official onsite league representative and or the Conference Director.

**3.17 SCHEDULE CHANGES:** Changes in the time or place of scheduled league games may only be made with the approval of the League Commissioner of that sport or the Conference Director. Approval for changes will not be granted except for conflicts with parish/school functions or activities. Any extra costs associated with the changes in time or place of scheduled league games will be paid by the team requesting the change. *PENALTY:* Forfeiture of the game(s).

### **3.18 TEAM COMPOSITION:**

- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Varsity (may have 8<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade participants)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Junior Varsity (may have 7<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade participants)
- 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Sharks (may have 8<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 6<sup>th</sup> grade participants)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Eagles (may have 6<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade participants)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Cubs (may have 5<sup>th</sup> grade participants only)
- 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Lions (may have 6<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade participants)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Training (may have 4<sup>th</sup> grade participants only)

Parishes/schools must have a minimum of six (6) participants on their teams in order to submit rosters for Volleyball and Basketball teams. There must be a minimum of nine (9) participants in order to submit a roster for Baseball teams. Parishes/schools must have Varsity and Junior Varsity teams in order to submit a roster for a Sharks team. Parishes/schools must have Eagles and Cubs teams in order to submit a roster for a Lions team. Written requests for exceptions to this rule must be submitted by the Athletic Director(s)/Sport Commissioner(s) to the Conference Director at least seven (7) days prior to the league meeting for that specific sport. At the league meeting, the members in attendance may also give input whether or not to allow the exception. The Conference Director, will bring their recommendations to the Executive Board for their review. The decision of the Executive Board regarding the request for the exception will be final.

**3.19 PRACTICE:** Baseball and Volleyball teams may not begin practicing before August 1<sup>st</sup>. Supplemental Summer Insurance forms and Permission forms must be properly completed prior to this date. Practice may not begin for a subsequent sport until the day after the final league game of the preceding sport. Playoffs are not considered part of the regular league games. **PENALTY:** Forfeiture of the game(s). Prior to the end of the school year, a three (3) day Baseball/Volleyball evaluation tryout may be held.

**3.20 DIVISIONS:** Sharks and Lions divisions with ten (10) or more teams will be split into North and South divisions. The composition of the North and South divisions will be chosen by the League Scheduler and approved by the Conference Director.

**3.21 TBA SCHEDULING:** The League Scheduler and the Conference Director will set time limits for the scheduling of TBA (To Be Announced) games. Home teams are responsible for the scheduling of TBA games. Any TBA game or games not scheduled within the designated time frame will result in forfeit(s) to the home team.

**3.22 RULE CHANGES:** Proposed changes or additions to the existing rules must be submitted in writing to the Conference Director by the deadline set by the Conference Director. The proposed changes will be included on the agenda for the “end of the year meeting” in May. Until the formal adoption of the track rules, any proposed changes or additions to the track rules may be submitted for consideration at the PPSL track meeting.

**3.23 FORFEIT SCORES:** Forfeit scores will be recorded as six (6) points for the winning team and minus six (-6) points for the team that forfeited.

The above rules were adopted by ALL 16 member schools and approved by the PPSL Executive Board. The penalty for ANY infractions of the above rules will be an automatic forfeiture of games