

Article I
NAME

This organization shall be known as the Illinois Valley Youth Tackle Football League (IVYTFL).

Article II
OBJECTIVE

To attain and promote the growth of scholastics and sportsmanship to our community youth through athletic competition.

Article III
GOVERNMENT

Section 1, **MANAGEMENT**: A Board of Directors shall govern the Illinois Valley Youth Tackle Football League. The Board of Directors is made up of one representative from each team participating in IVYTFL. At the January Directors meeting, new officers will be appointed based on a rotation Schedule. Each team will rotate up one position each year. If a new team is added they will start at the bottom of the list after that year rotation has been made. IVYTFL will function as a Board of the whole. The Board of Directors has been established to oversee the League as a whole, but not to intervene in individual member board matters unless a member organization breaks the By-Laws of IVYTFL.

The 2010 IVYTFL Board of Directors is as follows:

President -	Manteno	Directors -	Reed Custer
Vice-President -	Momence		Wilmington
Treasurer-	Monee		Bradley
Secretary-	Peotone		

IVYTFL will also have a Cheerleading committee made up of one representative from each member organization. This committee will meet at the same time and place as the regular IVYTFL board. They will bring recommendations concerning the Cheer program to the IVYTFL Board of Directors for it's' approval.

Section 2, **DUTIES**: The Board of Directors shall perform the duties and exercise the powers described by the Articles of Incorporation set forth in these By-Laws. These duties and powers shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. **PRESIDENT**: The President shall act as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors. The President shall be responsible for conducting the affairs of IVYTFL and for executing the policies established by the Board of Directors. The President is responsible for the conduct of IVYTFL and must be in strict conformity of its policies, principles, rules and regulations.
- B. **VICE-PRESIDENT**: The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President. The Vice-President will be responsible to verify each member's registrations and bring any questions to the member organizations and the Board of Directors.
- C. **SECRETARY**: The Secretary shall record minutes of each meeting to be presented at the next meeting. The Secretary is responsible for all Board correspondences. They are responsible for keeping track of the designated voter for each member organization during meetings.
- D. **TREASURER**: The Treasurer has the authority to disperse League funds with the approval from the Board of Directors. The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining financial records and presenting them at each monthly meeting, as well as an annual report at the January meeting.

E. **DIRECTORS:** Directors are member organizations that do not hold an officers position but still carry a vote in all League matters.

F. **GENERAL:** No member shall receive any compensation for serving on the Board. Each member organization is expected to attend each monthly meeting. After three (3) absences in a fiscal year, a Board member's term will cease and the organization will be placed on probation and lose voting privileges for one year.

Section 4, **VOTING:** Each IVYTFL member with voting privileges will be allowed to cast a vote on matters concerning IVYTFL. Before each meeting, a member must sign-in as a designated voter. The designee is the only person allowed to cast a vote at a meeting.

Section 5, **GENERAL INFORMATION:** General meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at the Bradley football facility at 7pm. The President may call special meetings as long as there is a 24-hour notice given to each member. IVYTFL fiscal year is from January 1 to December 31 of each year. A quorum of 51% must be present to hold a meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1, **ADULT MEMBERS:** Any person who has a child enrolled in the program or has an active interest shall be a member of the Illinois Valley Youth Tackle Football League, and shall be subject its' By-Laws.

Section 2, **YOUTH MEMBERS:** Any child meeting the requirements as set forth in these By-Laws of IVYTFL, shall be eligible for participation. If equipment is available, no child will be refused to participate provided that they conform to the team By-Laws and the IVYTFL Rules of Eligibility.

Section 3, **DISQUALIFICATION:** Any member not conforming to the By-Laws of the IVYTFL may be disqualified at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

Each club will consist of (4) teams, Superlight, Lightweight, Junior Varsity and Varsity (1 team) per division, limited by age and weight class. All weights listed on Attachment 1 "WEIGHT CHART" assume the player weighs-in wearing their game shoes, socks, game-pants, knee pads, thigh pads, all girdle pads and game jersey. For weigh-ins, the player is not required to wear helmet, shoulder pads, neck roll or rib pads. Dual teams, see Duel team alignment rules. The IVYTFL Board must approve all Double Stripers except at the Varsity level of play.

STRIPER RULES

SINGLE STRIPER

1. Only three (3) striper players on the field at a time
2. Striper players must have a single team color stripe on helmet, front to back, the exception will be - ANY TEAM WITH A PRE-STRIPED HELMET MUST STRIPE THEIR HELMET, FRONT TO BACK, WITH A BRIGHT NON-TEAM COLORED TAPE.
3. Stripers cannot handle the ball on offense and can only handle the ball if there is a turnover on defense. In the course of play, if a striper, either on defense or offense, recovers a fumble or intercepts a pass, he may not advance the ball.
4. The striper position on offense is a down lineman from tackle to tackle. The line positions are defined as LT,LG,C,RG,RT in a balanced offensive set and as LT,C,RG,RXG,RT in an unbalanced right formation and LT,LXG,LG,C,RT in an unbalanced left formation.
5. A single striper may play defense but must line up in a down position on (ON- is defined as anywhere on the offensive players body) the offensive tackle as defined in rule 4 above.

6. If a striper plays out of position, an automatic five (5) yard penalty will be assessed against offending team

7. If four (4) single or double stripers participate in a play a 5-yard penalty will be assessed against the offending team and the down will be Repeated.

8. A striper on defense is not allowed to drop into pass coverage more than three (3) yards. A 5-yard procedure penalty would apply.

DOUBLE STRIPER

1. At all levels of play if one double striper is on the field they may play any position tackle to tackle. If two double stripers are allowed on the field, but they are limited to playing "Offensive Tackles" position on opposite sides of the line. Double stripers at the JV, LW and SL level are restricted to a 5-play minimum and maximum. Double stripers at the Varsity level only may play an unlimited number of plays on offense only.

2. Double striper players must have a double team color stripe on their helmet, front to back, the exception will be - ANY TEAM WITH A PRESTRIPED HELMET MUST DOUBLE STRIPE THEIR HELMET, FRONT TO BACK, WITH A BRIGHT COLORED TAPE ON BOTH SIDES.

3. Double striper players **MAY NOT BE ON DEFENSE**, or the receiving team or on the kick.

4. Double striper cannot handle the ball on offense. In the course of play, if a Double striper recovers a fumble or catches a pass, they may not advance the ball.

5. Double striper positions are offensive down linemen, from normal tackle-to-tackle positions.

6. If a Double striper plays out of position, an automatic five (5) yard penalty will be assessed against offending team.

7. Double stripers are not allowed to pull at any level. A 5-yard procedure penalty will be assessed.

STRIPER AND DOUBLE STRIPER RULES FOR SPECIAL TEAMS

1. The following rules apply to single and double stripers concerning special teams play.

A. **PUNT** -Stripers may participate but may advance the ball only to the line of scrimmage in an attempt to punt. Double Stripers are NOT ALLOWED to participate on punt team. (NO TRICK PLAYS)

B. **PUNT RETURN** - Stripers may participate. Double Stripers CAN NOT participate.

C. **KICKOFF** -No striper or double striper may participate except to be the KICKER. After kicking they must come directly off the field and not participate in the play.

D. **KICK RETURN** - NO Striper or Double striper will be allowed to participate.

E. **EXTRA POINT** - May kick or hold the ball but NO trick play allowed. They may also be on the offensive line. No more than a total of three stripers or double stripers allowed. The penalty for violating these rules is a 5-yard procedure added to the end of the play.

RULES OF THE GAME

1. All teams must field eleven (11) players at the start of every game or that game will be forfeited (General Rule #3). NOTE: Striper and Double Striper rules apply (refer to Striper and Double Striper rule 1).

2. Games will be controlled by 4 officials whenever possible. In order to maintain play, three officials can be used if accepted by both teams involved. Official time will be kept on the playing field by the referees.

3. All games will be played under IHSA Varsity Rules with the following exceptions:

A. Extra points will be scored: One (1) point for a run or pass, two (2) points for kicked.

1. Superlight and Lightweight move the ball to 12 yards from goal post to kick. If kicking an extra point they must kick.

2. Superlight and Lightweight may put only 6 players on defense, lined up from end to end (head on the player in front of them) not covering or rushing the center or (A) gaps, from a down (3 point) linemen position during an extra point kick or field goal attempt. The offense must assume a normal (E T G C G T E) formation with splits no greater than 2 feet.

3. Superlight and Lightweights must advise the referee if they are attempting an extra point or field goal.

B. Field goal tries in Superlight and Lightweight: The ball will be moved 10 yards closer to goal post because of 80-yard field.

1. Same rules apply as extra point attempts. If attempt is missed or blocked IHSA rules would apply.

4. at no time may a team line-up or rush more than 2 players between the A gaps. Infraction is a 5 yard penalty.

5. Games will consist of 4 quarters with 20 minutes or less at halftime. Quarters, field size and timeouts will be as follows:

A. Superlight and Lightweight Divisions:

1. Ten minute quarters and Played on a shortened 80-yard field and ISHA Rules for time. Clock will start at the time of ball being set for play. (01-11)

2. A 35 second play clock will be used.

3. Four timeouts per half. Timeouts are thirty (30) seconds.

B. Junior Varsity and Varsity Divisions:

1. Ten minute quarters and played on a regulation field and IHSA rules for time.

2. Four timeouts per half. Timeouts are sixty (60) seconds.

6. Game Balls: Each team will provide their own game ball on offense. The same ball must be used through a series possession including extra points, punts, field goal attempts and ensuing kick-off. If game ball is not readily available by offensive team upon change of possession, official has right to use ball on field. (01-11)

Superlights shall use:

Leather - Wilson K2 TDJ, Baden, Rawlings Pro 5 Jr., Rawlings R5-PW

Composite - Wilson K2 or TDJ, Baden, Rawlings ST5, Nike - PW

Lightweight shall use:

Leather - Wilson TDJ or TDY, Baden, Rawlings R5Y

Composite - Wilson TDY or TDJ, Baden, Rawlings ST5, Nike Junior

Junior Varsity shall use:

Leather - Wilson TDY, Rawlings R5, Baden

Composite - Wilson TDY, Baden, Rawlings ST5, Nike - Youth

Varsity shall use:

Leather - Wilson TDS, Baden, Rawlings R5

Composite - Wilson TDS, Baden Collegiate, Rawlings ST5, Nike - Senior

7. When a team leads by eighteen 18 or more points, the leading team will not kickoff to the losing team. At the Superlight and Lightweight levels the losing team will take possession at the winning team's 30-yard line. At the Junior Varsity and Varsity levels the losing team will take possession at winning team's 40-yard line after any score and at the beginning of the second half until the difference is below eighteen (18) points.

A. Prior to the start of each game, the starting backfield line-up will be exchanged between coaches and provided to referees. The starting backfield consists of the four (4) backs and two (2) ends. To avoid confusion, the five positions not listed will be the two tackles, two guards and center.

B. The starting backfield of the leading team must also be substituted and may not handle the ball on offense until the score is below eighteen points. If positions of players are not available as substitutes, positions of players must be changed. A 5-yard procedure penalty will be charged if a starting backfield player plays one of the designated positions. The exception to this will be a player who is listed in the starting backfield and assumes the position of punter or kicker. This player may continue to perform these duties but at no time may they advance the ball, other than kicking.

C. When a team leads by 18 or more points starting backfield may advance the ball only to the line of scrimmage in an attempt to punt or kick. No trick plays.
(Amended 2-10)

8. At the Superlight and Lightweight level if a kickoff goes out of bounce on the kick and goes further than ten yards, the ball will be placed at midfield. All High School rules apply at Junior Varsity and Varsity.

9. The Superlight and Lightweight must inform the referee if they are going to punt on fourth down. If they are punting, the defensive team cannot rush the punter. The Superlight or Lightweight punter cannot move more than five yards from the right or left from the center to punt. The punter will be given a 5 second count to punt the ball after it is snapped if the ball is not punted within the 5 second count a 5 yard delay of game and loss of down penalty will be assessed.

10. At the Junior Varsity and Varsity level NO player shall lineup head-on the center or rush the A gap unless in a down lineman position head up on the guard during a punt, field goal or extra point attempt. If they do a 5-yard procedure penalty will be called. Also ANY CONTACT with the punter, kicker or holder will be called UNDER IHSA RULES BY THE OFFICIALS. (01-11)

11. The Superlight and Lightweight will not have any major penalties to exceed ten yards.

12. All tie games will be played off per IHSA Varsity rules.

13. All playing shoes must be IHSA approved shoe.

14. Referees and both team representatives will have full responsibility for maintaining discipline and control in the matters concerning the conduct of the coaches, players, fans and their effect upon playing conditions.

15. Any Player or Coach ejected for any reason or involved in fighting during their game on the field will receive an automatic one game suspension. A second offense will result in a suspension for the remainder of the year. All ejections must be reported to the league Secretary and all league teams via e-mail by both teams and game official within 24hrs of the game in which this occurred.(01-11)

16. Cancel games prior to completion.

1. Canceled anytime during and prior to the start of the fourth quarter are considered incomplete and will be continued on the home team's field at an agreed-upon date and time.

2. Games in play during the fourth quarter are considered complete.

17. Game Delays: The League recommends delays to last one (1) hour prior to canceling a total game day or one game. We also require referees to remain on the premises and will be reimbursed for their time. To minimize the backup of games, if able to continue, the following options should be utilized:

1. Complete game as started

2. Complete game in progress and if team is leading by 18 points or more utilize General Rule 16.2 and move to next game.

18. No player will be allowed to compete while wearing a soft or hard cast.

19. All initial contact on the interior line for both offense and defense must be above the waist. Interior line is defined as outside shoulder from tackle to tackle on offense. Unbalance formations are defined in striper rule 4.

20. All on field coaching at the Superlight & Lightweight levels will end once the Quarterback is set. The first flag will result in a warning. A second and sequential flags will result in a 5-yard penalty.

21.WEIGH-INS

1. All weigh-ins will be held at halftime of the game in progress, except for the first game of the day. They will be held one half (1/2) hour prior to start. They will be executed under the provisions set by "Attachment 1, Weight Chart".

2. Each team is requested to have one person as a coordinator to handle all weigh-ins and disputes. This person cannot be a coordinator of the team they are coaching. NO parents will be allowed at weigh-ins.

3. A balance beam or digital scale is the only scale approved by the league directors. A fifty (50) pound metal weight will be used to check the scale Before weigh-ins.

4. Opposing AD's will have the right to inspect equipment to assure that it is of the type used by the players in the game. If a player is found not to be wearing complete or improper equipment at weigh-in the opposing team has the right to make that player sit out the first half of play.

5. A player arriving late has until the start of their game to be weighed, after the game starts they must sit out until halftime of their game to be Weighed.

6. All players will be weighed carrying their game jersey.

7. If a player weighs in at halftime prior to his/her game and does not make weight, he/she has the right to weigh-in at halftime of his/her game. The five plays per game rule apply. (At halftime, a striper/double may not re-weigh to make it as a non-striper/striper.)

GENERAL RULES

1. Each team will provide no later than the August IVYTFL meeting a complete Football & Cheerleading roster master sorted by level of play in paper form to each individual team and a copy of the same information via email or cd in excel format to the league. The rosters must be sorted numerically for football and alphabetically for cheerleading in the format below.

Jersey #	First name	Last name	Age-FB grade-Cheer	Birthday	Level	Weight
1	Johnny	Player	8	7/26/01	SL	75
2	Billy	Football	7	9/2/01	SL	60

A. All teams are required to submit via email before a game, new rosters to every team after a roster move (i.e. LW move up to JV) or a new player added. It is a team's discretion to allow individual players to play if not listed on a roster. No new players will be allowed after the August League meeting, if a team has twenty-two (22) or more players.

2. All games will be played on Saturdays or Sundays beginning no earlier than 11:00am except by special agreement by both teams. (A \$25 rescheduling fee will be charged to the team requesting to reschedule a game after July 1st. With the exception of weather related changes. All weather related cancellations must be played with an agreed upon time by the two teams involved. If an agreed upon time can't be met, then the games will be scheduled by the league for the first open weekend date that the two teams have in common. If a team then can't play on the date assigned the team not attending would forfeit that days games.)

3. Players will be allowed to move up in division if overweight, but once moved, they will not be allowed to move back. Players may play in only one division on any scheduled date, unless to avoid a forfeit. Final decisions will be left up to the coaches involved to avoid a forfeit.

4. If two teams tie for first place, they will be considered co-champions. Both divisions will have League champions. Trophies will be awarded to first and second place teams at each level of play, if there is a tie, only the co-champion trophies will be awarded.

5. Registration of players/cheerleaders is allowed at any time. NO TRYOUTS. No player will be allowed to practice without insurance or proof of age. All Superlight and Lightweight teams will be granted permission to hold an informal 2-hour seminar one week prior to the start of the season. The purpose of this seminar is to fit and explain equipment, and to explain football terminology. No evaluation of player is to take place.

6. Practice may begin three (3) weeks prior to the first scheduled game for both football and cheerleading.

7. The League will allow five (5) practices per week prior to September 1. After this date, the maximum number of practices per week will be four (4). A player must have one week of practice prior to participating in their first game. The league requires all participants to have a sports physical. A copy of one taken for school will be accepted. Parents who refuse MUST sign a waiver releasing the league and organizations of any liability.

8. Any single team found to be in violation of Rules 5,6 or 7 will be disqualified from football playoffs and/or cheer competition at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The member organization will also be placed on 1-year probation and a second offense will result in removal from IVYTFL.

9. Should any team, for any reason, wish to protest a game a written statement must be made to at least three members of the League Board, giving the reason for the protest, with-in seventy-two hours of the completion of the protested game. The League Board of Directors will meet at its earliest opportunity after all teams have been notified of the protest to determine if the protest is valid. A protest fee of fifty dollars (\$50) will be assessed to the protesting team, to be returned, if the protest is upheld. The losing team will pay a fine of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250). IVYTFL discretion on the outcome of the game that is under protest.

10. Any coaches or team official found intentionally violating League rules or the accepted rules of fair play and sportsmanship, that team may be placed on one-year probation. The Board of Directors will strictly enforce this rule.

11. All new member teams are placed on a one year probation period.

12. All players must play a minimum of 5 plays.

A. A play is any attempt to proceed with game play with the exception of the following. Taking a knee, spiking the ball and any dead ball foul. (added 12-09)

13. A list of each team's facilities and a map or directions to each field shall be provided to the League Directors at roster hand-in.

14. Chains and down makers will be provided by the home team. Being placed on opposite side of the announcers booth (01-11)

15. A player is restricted to play in one tackle football team during IVYTFL season (first practice until Championship). If a team is found to have players participating in multiple leagues, that team will forfeit all games the player or players participated in and the player or players will be banned permanently from IVYTFL.

16. Each team will have the identification registration provided by the teams on the playing field (including copy birth certificate and recent picture).

17. All teams will be required to follow a set schedule, in the interest of safety, have helmets and facemasks recertified every two years.

18. NO high school students will be allowed to play

19. No alcoholic beverages allowed at practice or games. Smoking is not allowed on the sidelines of any League game. A smoking ban is in place at many of the fields being played on (Illinois State law prohibits smoking on any school property). Please observe these rules when posted.

20. IVYTFL will assess yearly fees to cover the cost of operating the League. Each member organization is responsible for an equal share in the expense of operating IVYTFL.

21. Voting procedures to amend and or add to the By-Laws are as follows:

A. One vote per team.

B. Registered officer of each team, or in their absence a designee, casts vote.

C. A two thirds (2/3) majority vote of those present is required to pass or amend a By-Law.

22. The League has established a team representative (member of Board, coaches, stats, etc.) dress code. The representative must wear a designated team shirt. Accessories such as bandannas, heavy jewelry, gloves, etc. will NOT be allowed. Caps may be worn with the bill pointing forward.

23. Disciplinary Problems: A team representative must be at a League meeting (either a regular/special meeting) and present the following:

A. Discuss the problem.

B. Advise what penalties have been assessed by his/her organization

C. Advise what is being done to keep problem from re-occurring. This step must be approved by a majority of League Reps.

D. Second offense of the same type violation in a one calendar year period will result in one-year probation.

E. Third offense of the same type violation in one calendar year period will result in ejection from IVYTFL.

F. The team ejected from the League may be reinstated only if they agree to abide by all conditions set forth by IVYTFL League Reps.

G. Any team that is on probation for a disciplinary reason is ineligible for the playoffs in any of the four levels.

24. There will be NO play-by-play announcing while the play is actually taking place.

25. Referee fees 2011 will be \$41.25 per game = \$165.00 per day.

26. No advertising or soliciting shall be done at any game except by home team, unless specific permission is given by home team.

DYNAMITE LEVEL RESTRICTIONS

1. A Dynamite team is comprised of 5 & 6 year old players only (No weight restrictions). The games will be played jamboree style and there is no movement between the Dynamite team and other teams participating in IVYTFL.

PLAYOFFS

1. The League has established an all team playoff system described below:

A. Qualifying - The league consists of 7 teams all of which will qualify for playoffs.

B. Round 1 - The top 1 team will have a bye, qualifying team #2 plays #7, #3 plays #6 and #4 plays #5.

C. Round 2 - The #1 qualifying teams will play the lowest remaining seed and the #2 seed plays the highest remaining seed.

D. League Championship - The winners from round 2 will face each other for the league championship.

2. The following criteria is established to determine seeding for the playoffs

A. Overall record

B. Head to Head wins

D. 3 way tie and Head to Head does not work, coin toss (to occur on final day of regular season games at a mutually agreed upon location with League officers presiding)

4. No player will be allowed to move up in any division after their team has been eliminated from the playoffs.

DUAL TEAM ALIGNMENT RULES

1. Players will remain on the same team if returning in the same division.
2. Players who advance to the next weight division will be placed in a pool and be divided one-by-one by the head coaches.
 - A. The oldest player regulates family participation.
 - B. Coaches and support staff (medical, equipment, etc.) will regulate family participation.
3. Newly registered players will then be put in a pool and coaches will pick one-by-one until the first team is completed based on a teams' maximum per team. The remaining players will fill the other team's quota.
4. A new expansion team (second, third or fourth) can have a one-day evaluation practice prior to their selection draft, up to one month preceding the first scheduled day of practice. The draft shall be a one-on-one pick until the teams' roster is achieved.

CAMPS

1. Each team will be allowed to hold a camp ran by their organization.
2. The camp will be 3 days or less
3. The coaching staff of each team can be present at this camp.
4. The camp must take place after registration of players.
5. The camp can only be from May 1st to July 1st.
6. They must be open the public.
7. All camps must be voluntary.
8. No player or players shall wear pads.
9. All high school and college camps are exempt

The preceding By-Laws were approved by a vote of () yes, () no and () absent votes and they were signed by a designee from each of its' Member Organizations on , 2011.

Bradley - _____

Reed Custer- _____

Manteno- _____

Momence- _____

Wilmington- _____

Monee- _____

Peotone- _____

Illinois Valley Youth Tackle Football League Cheerleading Guidelines

Section 1, **MANAGEMENT:** A cheer committee will be made up of one representative from each IVYTFL member organization and follow the same officers guidelines established for the IVYTFL Board of Directors' as defined on page one of the By-Laws. The cheer committee will meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm at Bradley Field in conjunction with the regular IVYTFL meeting.

Section 2, **GUIDELINES:** The following grade requirements apply to cheerleading:

Superlight - First and Second Grade
Lightweight - Third and Fourth Grade
Junior Varsity - Fifth and Sixth Grade
Varsity - Seventh and Eighth Grade

Participation is governed under IVYTFL By-Laws and is open to Girls and Boys ages 6 before September 1 and age 14 not to be 15 before September

1. A participant may move up in a division based on the individual boards discretion but may not move down a division. However, participation in the IVYTFL cheer competition will follow grade level guidelines.

RULES SPECIFIC TO CHEERLEADING

1. As stated in IVYTFL By-Laws, General Rules #5, NO TRYOUTS are allowed.

2. Participation in the IVYTFL Cheer Competition is mandatory. All four cheer divisions (excluding pom squads) from each IVYTFL member organization that cheers during the regular season are required to participate. If a squad has less than 5 cheerleaders, that specific squad may choose to be exempt from competition. If a team does not participate, they are not allowed host the event the next time they are in the rotation and placed on probation. If the same team is absent a second year they could be removed from the league.

3. The cheer competition will be held in October on a date set by the IVYTFL Board of Directors. The date is to preferably be the weekend of the second round of football playoffs on the opposing date of the game. The site of the Cheer Competition has been determined to be held on a rotating basis but, in the event that a member organization is unable, unwilling or have proper equipment to host the competition, it will rotate down to the next team. **Hosting team must commit by the February meeting.** The rotation is as follows:

Bradley 2011	Peotone 2015
Manteno 2012	Reed Custer 2016
Momence 2013	Wilmington 2017
Monee 2014	

If a new team is added to IVYTFL, they will be added to end of this list after the rotation has been made for that year.

4. Cheer competition will follow the Illinois Valley Youth Tackle Football League Official Rules & Regulation as established by the cheer committee and the NFHS Spirit Rules Handbook and approved by the IVYTFL Board of Directors. The rules will be revised yearly and any changes will require a two thirds majority vote by the cheer committee and the IVYTFL Board of Directors.

5. IVYTFL will provide trophies for first, second and third place only. (amended 3/3/2010)
6. After trophies have been awarded, all judges' decisions and awards are final.
7. The first place winners from the cheer competitions at all 4 levels may choose perform their winning routine at halftime of the Championship. During the halftime, the cheerleaders of the teams participating in the game are allowed to do a hello cheer. The only performance with music allowed is for the competition winners.
8. Each squad must be under the supervision of a coach or an adult at all times. Coaches will be responsible for their squads conduct at all times.
9. IVYTFL and the events host will not be responsible for accidents, injuries or illness that occurs before, during or after the competition.
10. Non-performing squads are to remain orderly and quiet (outside of normal cheering for a squad) while another team is performing. Good sportsmanship required.
11. The following items are allowed, hair bows, scrunches and bobby pins.
12. The following items are NOT allowed, make-up, glitter, jewelry, nail polish, hair combs, hair clips, barrettes or costumes (only team uniform).
13. Entire uniform including hair accessories & socks must all be the same color and style for each member of the participating squad.
14. Shoes must be white and clean, but do not have to match.
15. Routines for the competition MAY NOT exceed 3 minutes in length (but may be under 3 minutes). The routine must consist of a minimum of 30 seconds of full cheer. If a routine is judged to have exceeded the maximum time and/or does not include a full 30 seconds of cheer a 5 point deductions will occur. Judging and timing will begin once your music or cheer has started and will end when the cheer or music stop. All music and wording of music and cheers must be age appropriate and approved by the IVYTFL cheer directors.
16. Each team is responsible to start and stop their own music. You may test your music upon arrival in the morning. Please have an extra copy of your music for a back-up.
17. IHSA Spirit Rule Book is to be used as a guideline for mounting. Since this is a recreational league, final mounting approval must come from the cheer directors. If there is any question about a mount, it needs to be discussed by the cheer directors at a regularly schedules meeting and voted upon. If there is a question regarding a mount (DON'T do it). A 15-point deduction will be taken for illegal mounts or stunts.
18. The following cheerleading actions are allowed, cheers, partner stunting, pyramids, dance, jumps, kicks, splits, leaps, turns and tumbling. The following, splits, round-offs and cartwheels are considered tumbling stunts and if an attempt is made a minimum of 1 point will be given. No team will be given a zero on a judges score sheet if that attempt is made.
19. All stunting and tumbling must be performed completely on the mat. All tumbling approach must also begin and end on the mat. A deduction will be taken for any tumbling and/or stunting done off the mat. (amended 3/3/2010)
20. All pyramids are limited to a maximum of 2 high (base+1). No participant is allowed to individually support the weight of 1 or more teammate. A pyramid more than 2 high will result in an immediate disqualification. Each participant above the shoulders or extensions must have their own back spotter. All bases and spotters must be competing squad members on the floor. Coaches may be safety guides if needed.

21. Body drops to the ground WILL NOT be allowed. A body drop is a straight drop to the ground without any hand support.
22. Cheerleaders with handicaps will NOT be discouraged from competing. The judges will be advised prior to competition of their status and all handicapped cheerleaders will participate as any other cheerleader.
23. Only 1 cheer director from each member organization will be allowed to attend the cheer directors meeting prior to the start of the competition with the judges. No non-director coaches will be allowed at the meeting and it is the responsibility of each director to discuss all rules with their coaches prior to the competition and to give them any updates from the directors meeting.
24. There is absolutely no "coaching" from the sidelines during a squad's performance. A 5 point deduction from the overall score will occur. This is not the coach's performance but the cheerleaders.
25. Squads will perform and practice in the order that their names were drawn prior to the competition. The competition will not be delayed for a late squad (no exceptions). This includes floor practice time prior to the start of the competition.
26. Score sheets will be collected immediately after each squad's performance and given to 3 tabulators. Final placement will be checked by 3 designated cheer directors before the results are announced. The score sheets will be released to each town's cheer director at the end of the day. They will receive only their score sheets.
27. Taping and/or soft braces will be allowed on any body part. No casts or metal braces are allowed. (amended 3/3/2010)
28. Full extensions are allowed at the Varsity and Junior Varsity levels. They also may be performed at the Lightweight level but require a front spotter. The Superlight level is NOT allowed to do full extensions.
29. Judges must not be or have affiliation with IVYTFL or its' event host. Judges will be paid \$150 each for the day's events. Judges will be selected and voted on by the IVYTFL cheer committee. Hosting team will be excluded from this vote. (amended 3/3/2010)
30. Spirit grams will be read in back for the coaches and cheerleaders. They are not to be read in front of the crowd.
31. The host team is responsible for coordinating and handling all aspects of hosting the event, which include but are not limited to security, videotaping, distribution of tapes and novelties.
32. Poms and signs are allowed to be used during the competition at all levels. A squad choosing to use these props must carry them on during their performance. There is NO pre-placement of poms or signs by anyone at any level before taking the mat for competition.

Attachment 1: WEIGHT CHART

As of the December 9, 2009 the IVYTFL Board has re-approved its' weight chart and policy to be use during the 2011 season. This weight chart eliminates the option of weighing with or without equipment, and players simply weigh in with the following requirements:

Required Equipment at all weigh ins:	Equipment NOT required at weigh ins.
1. Game shoes	1. Helmet
2. Socks	2. should pads
3. game pants	3. rib pads
4. knee and thigh pads.	4. neck rolls
5. girdle and all girdle pads.	
6. game jersey	

2011 SEASON AGE & WEIGHTS

Level	age	weight
Super-Light	6-8	80
Striper*	6-8	90
age 9 after Sept. 1st		65
	*** Double Striper ***	requires board approval
Light-Weight	7-10	100
Striper*	7-10	110
age 11 after Sept. 1st		85
	*** Double Striper ***	requires board approval
Junior Varsity	8-12	125
Striper*	8-12	135
Age 13 after Sept. 1st		95
	*** Double Striper ***	requires board approval
Varsity	9-14	160
Striper*	12-14	195
Double Striper**		275 (NO EXCEPTIONS)

All Double Stripers at Superlight, Lightweight and Junior Varsity must be approved by the IVYTFL Board of Directors. An approved Double Striper can only be moved up one level of play based on the established age/weight chart by the Board. It is the team's discretion to move that player up based on ability.