



Treasure Coast Football Conference, Inc.

Pop Warner Little Scholars, Inc. and South East Region

Standard Operating Procedures

2022

(Revised July 30, 2022)

PLEASE NOTE: THESE SOP'S ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE IF THE NATIONAL POP WARNER RULE BOOK CHANGES ARE ADOPTED AFTER DISTRIBUTION OF THESE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES OR IF ANY SAFETY ISSUES ARISE.

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OR CONFERENCE RULES MAY OVERRIDE OR SUPERCEDE THE POP WARNER RULE BOOK.

TREASURE COAST FOOTBALL CONFERENCE S.O.P. MANUAL

The Treasure Coast Football Conference, Inc. (TCFC) Standard Operating Procedures Manual shall be reviewed each year by the conference board. Any changes will be distributed to the associations either electronically or at the regular general meeting prior to the beginning of the upcoming season. In addition, the Standard Operating Procedures will be posted on the TCFC website: tcfcpopwarner.com. It is the responsibility of each Association President, not the TCFC, to review the SOP's with all coaches and members of their association prior to the beginning of each season.

Chain of Command

Pop Warner is structured and operates through a chain of command. The proper chain of command is as follows: Team > Association > Conference > Region > National Office. No association board members, coaches, participants, rostered volunteers, or parents are permitted to jump the chain of command by contacting the Region or National office prior to notifying the TCFC in writing of any issues relating to the conference. Football related issues should be directed to the TCFC Football Commissioner and Cheer/Dance issues should be directed to the TCFC Cheer/Dance Coordinator. All contact with TCFC must be made via the association president or any other executive board member. The TCFC will have 72 hours to respond to the inquiry. The association president will be notified via e-mail when a resolution is determined. **Resolutions and decisions made by TCFC are final regardless of the outcome.** In the event an association disagrees with the said resolution then only the association president may request a phone meeting with TCFC to resolve the matter. In such a case were a resolution cannot be determined, the TCFC may seek guidance from the Region or grant the association president permission to move up the chain of command to the Region. **Failure to follow the chain of command may result in the association's placement on probation, additional fines, removal from the conference or any other action deemed necessary by the TCFC. The chain of command applies to all board members, coaches, participants, rostered volunteers, or parents within any association.**

Annual Association Registration

Every year, in accordance with National Pop Warner rules, all association board members along with their role assignment and their email address must be inputted into the National roster software no later than March 1st or per National's deadline (whichever occurs first).

Annual Team Dues

The annual team dues for each football and cheer/dance team, as determined by the TCFC, are payable in full at the July TCFC meeting. Any and all team fees paid are **non-refundable** regardless of the situation which includes, but is not limited to, lack of participants, shortage of volunteers, lack of proper coaching certifications, or dissolution of a football or cheer/dance team. Failure to pay the required team dues could result in your association's removal from the conference.

Annual Association Insurance Certificates

Insurance certificates are required to be sent to the TCFC on or before August 1st of the current year or by the deadline established by the Pop Warner National office (whichever occurs first). All football and cheer/dance teams are strictly prohibited from practicing on or after August 1st if a valid insurance certificate is not on file with the TCFC and Pop Warner National office. **An Association is subject to**

suspension or removal from the conference if the TCFC determines that a football or dance/cheer team was practicing without insurance.

Association Removal

An association may be suspended, removed, or put in to receivership if they do not attend 3 regularly scheduled TCFC meetings during a calendar year. In addition, an Association may be removed from the conference for cause by a majority vote of the TCFC.

Football and Cheer/Dance Divisions

FOOTBALL DIVISIONS:

The Treasure Coast Conference has 5 football divisions:

6-U (5 & 6 yr. olds)

8-U (7 & 8 yr. olds)

10-U (8, 9 & 10 yr. olds) **Note: an 8 yr. old has the option to play in 8U or 10U.**

12U (10, 11 & 12 yr. olds) **Note: a 10 yr. old has the option to play in 10U or 12U.**

14-U (12, 13 & 14 yr. olds) **Note: a 12 yr. old has the option to play in 12U or 14U.**

In all divisions, there are no minimum or maximum weight restrictions.

CHEER DIVISIONS:

The Treasure Coast Conference has 6 cheer and dance divisions:

Tiny Mite (5,6,7 yr. olds)

Mitey-Mite (7,8,9 yr. olds)

Jr. Pee Wee (8,9,10, 11 yr. olds)

Pee Wee (9,10,11,12 yr. olds)

Jr.Varsity (10,11,12,13 yr. olds)

Varsity (12,13,14,15,16 yr. olds)

Coaches Requirements

All TCFC football and cheer/dance coaches must fulfill the requirements mandated every year in the current Pop Warner National Rule Book.

The TCFC has final approval for all football and cheer/dance coaches. The TCFC reserves the right to deny any football, cheer/dance coach, or volunteer from participation at their sole discretion and without appeal.

Football Jersey Requirements

To ensure compliance with the current Pop Warner rules, any jersey changes must be approved by the TCFC Football Commissioner and the Southeast Region. All football teams advancing to the regional or national playoffs are required to have both home and away jerseys (one white and one dark). The jersey numbers are not required to be the same for each color. Failure to travel with both sets of

jerseys could result in playoff disqualification.

Mandatory Background Checks

All Conference and Association officers, directors, coaches, committee members and certified volunteers are required to complete a National Pop Warner volunteer application and submit to a background check on a yearly basis as mandated by National Pop Warner Rules. Any individual that is coming in close contact with the children must have a background check. Certain municipalities (counties or cities) may have more stringent requirements for individuals volunteering within a particular association. In these cases, a volunteer must comply with the more stringent requirements.

All Associations must submit their Pop Warner volunteer applications and copy of volunteer's driver's license to the TCFC for background check review per the date established each year by the TCFC. All City run organizations that complete their own background checks must submit the volunteer application, copy of the volunteer's driver's license, the background check results, and a copy of the City "Exclusionary Criteria". After an applicant has been screened, Associations will be notified of anyone who has failed the background check.

Team Book Order

The team book order is subject to change each year. After the Southeast Region Compliance Committee has issued the team book requirements, they will be distributed to the Associations and will be posted on the TCFC website.

All certification documentation must be kept in a 3-ring binder and in clear plastic protective sleeves. Football & Cheer participants should be listed in alphabetical order. See Team Book Order documents or contact the TCFC Compliance Officer for more detailed training materials.

TEAM BOOKS MUST BE WITH THE TEAMS AT ALL TIMES. THIS INCLUDES PRACTICES, SCRIMMAGES, GAMES, COMPETITIONS, AND FUNDRAISING EVENTS. A TEAM IS PROHIBITED FROM PRACTICING, PLAYING, OR COMPETING WITHOUT THE TEAM BOOK PRESENT.

Team Book Certification Process

The TCFC will set the certification date, requirements, and procedures. For initial and final certification, 3 typed rosters are required: 1 for the team book, 1 for scholastics, and one for the TCFC. During the initial certification, the team books will be reviewed and all discrepancies will be noted. Football players and cheerleaders are not required to attend the initial certification. At the picture to face certification, all football players must have their game jersey. All cheerleaders will be checked at the picture to face certification. A TCFC Board Member will certify each player's photo and jersey number and any discrepancies will be noted. After verifying all of the participant's paperwork a TCFC Board Member will complete the certification.

If the TCFC certifies an ineligible player in error it does not absolve the head coach or association of responsibility or of the consequences of the error. If the TCFC or Region discovers an ineligible player at any time during the regular season or playoffs, the games in which the ineligible player participated will be forfeited. The team may be disqualified from the local, regional, or national playoffs as a result of the ineligible player.

Pre-Season Football Camps

Football camps or conditioning clinics of any kind are prohibited after July 15th of the current year. This includes any City or PAL Program affiliated with Pop Warner.

Practice Schedule

Practice commences on August 1st. **No practices (as defined by the Pop Warner Rule Book) shall be held prior to August 1st.** No participant or volunteer shall take the field for practice unless all official paperwork has been completed and the association insurance has been submitted to the TCFC and Pop Warner National office. **There are NO EXCEPTIONS! Associations and coaches are subject to suspension for violating these requirements.**

Scrimmages

No inter squad scrimmages or scrimmages with other associations can take place without written consent from the TCFC. Inter squad scrimmages are permitted only after 10 hours of conditioning and 10 hours of pads have been completed. No scrimmages can be played after the first game. **In no circumstances shall a Pop Warner team scrimmage against a team outside of its age division or with a non-Pop Warner affiliated team.**

TCFC Football Schedule

The football scheduling process will begin immediately after the July TCFC meeting. Any association that is in arrears with any vendor affiliated with Pop Warner will not be included in the current schedule. Non-resolution of said financial matters may lead to probation, additional fines, removal from the conference or any other action deemed necessary by the TCFC in order to sustain/preserve good will amongst all parties. **Any association that drops a football team, for any reason, after the schedule has been completed or after the season has started will be fined \$1,000.**

Football Game Admission Fees

The TCFC Board shall set admission prices for all association events. Admission prices for regular season football games is as follows:

Adults \$6.00, children (ages 6-17) \$3.00, children 5 and under Free.

Football players with jerseys and cheerleaders/dancers in uniform will be admitted free during the regular season.

During the regular season, football and cheer/dance coaches will be admitted free when presenting a valid ID badge issued by the TCFC. This does not include Conference playoff or championship games, TCFC Cheer/Dance Competition, or Regional and National playoffs/competitions.

Admission prices for the TCFC local Cheer and Dance Competition

The Southeast Region will set the admission prices for all regional events.

The Pop Warner National office will set all admission prices for national events.

Team Coolers

Team coolers and player drink containers are the only coolers allowed in parks. Please remind coaches to enforce this with the parents. **Exception: Parents may bring a cooler if a park does not have a concession stand that is open. No alcohol permitted and team coolers are subject to search. Any spectator, coach, or other person who chooses to harass the hosting association will be asked to leave immediately.**

Game Day Procedures

Team book checks are required prior to every game. Football players and cheerleaders are to be checked in by a representative from the opposing team or the field administrator. Teams should arrive at least one hour prior to scheduled game time. **All players must be checked in at least 15 minutes before game time.** Book check personnel shall not allow a football team to play with less than the minimum of 16 eligible players required to start the game. A team lacking the minimum number of players will forfeit the game. **No scrimmages or unofficial games shall be played on game day. Participating in a scrimmage or an unofficial game on game day will result in a one game suspension for the head coach.**

Football Game Announcers, Game Clock Operators, and DJ

All announcers and game clock operators must be at least eighteen (18) years of age. Any acts of “cheerleading” or “favoritism” by the announcers during a game may result in possible removal or disciplinary action. All music played shall be void of inappropriate language including but not limited to cursing, lewd language, and racial slurs. If the music content is questionable, don’t play it.

Medical

The home team or hosting organization has the responsibility to provide medical coverage at each game or competition. In the absence of a physician and or ambulance on the site, the minimum safety requirement will be the presence of one individual associated with the home team/host organization who is currently EMT qualified or is currently certified in Red Cross Community First Aid and Safety, the P.R.E.P.A.R.E. Course by the National Center for Sport Safety (www.sportssafety.org), or their equivalent.

Security

The home association is responsible for providing adequate security for games. All fields must have a secure place for the referees to sit and rest between games.

Officials/Referees

The associations are responsible for paying the referees according to the fee schedule provided each year. The TCFC requires the associations to provide food and drinks to the referees during their breaks. All referee fees must be paid prior to the start of playoffs. **Any teams from an association that has unpaid referee fees will not be eligible for the playoffs.**

If a player or adult should threaten, verbally harass, or strike a game official, the offender shall be subject to suspension and/or being permanently banned from Pop Warner activities.

Video/Film

The TCFC encourages the use of video for the teaching of Football and Cheer/Dance fundamentals. Videotaping of football or cheer/dance practices is strictly prohibited. Videotaping is allowed at all regular and post season football games, but filming a team's pre-game or halftime talk is prohibited. Video may be requested or utilized by the TCFC for the purpose of an official investigation but will NOT be used to overturn decisions of the game officials on the field and judges in competitions.

Sidelines & Badges

The TCFC will issue badges for all rostered personnel. The badges are to be visibly worn and not tucked in your pocket or under your shirt. Anyone without a valid badge for the team currently playing will be removed from the sideline. No more than 10 non-players per team on a sideline. This number includes adult water personnel. Water boys or girls under the age of 18 are not counted in the 10 person limit, but there can be no more than 2 on the sideline. Also, the 2 play counters are not included in the 10 person limit. Head coaches are responsible for maintaining control of their sidelines, parents, players and themselves. Head Coaches are responsible for knowing, following and enforcing the rules! Abuse of the sideline policy may lead to suspension of the Head Coach.

Chain Crew

The home association is responsible for providing a chain crew for each game. Members of the chain crew may not use a cell phone at any time during a game. In addition, members of the chain crew cannot communicate, in any way, with coaches or players of the team in which they are rooting for. Engaging in sideline coaching, negative comments, and or prohibited communication may result ejection from the park. The chains should be located on the away side of the field.

MPR (Mandatory Play Rule)

The Pop Warner National MPR rules shall be in effect for all regular and post season football games.

Both teams are required to send a person to the opponent's sideline to monitor the MPR recording. Each team may choose a coach, parent, or spectator to record their own MPRs, but a representative from the opposing team must be present as a monitor. The MPR monitor is not required to have a TCFC badge. However, if they do not have a valid TCFC badge for that team, the MPR monitor must leave the sideline immediately after the play counting is complete.

Players not receiving their mandatory plays (regardless of the number) are required to start in the next scheduled game AND receive double the number of mandatory plays.

Failure to comply with all MPR rules will result in an investigation and possible suspension of the head coach.

It is the responsibility of the head football coach to see that the MPR sheet is properly maintained in accordance with Regional and National playoff rules.

Lopsided/Intentionally Run Up Score Violations

Lopsided scores shall be enforced at a minimum as stated in the current Pop Warner Rule book. Furthermore, any head coach that, according to the referees, video, TCFC Board Members, or other official sources, intentionally humiliates or runs up a score will be investigated immediately and will be subject to disciplinary action including suspension.

A 40 point differential at the end of any game will result in an automatic 1 game suspension of the head coach. A head coach has many opportunities to reduce scoring long before achieving a 40 point differential.

Ejections

A player, coach, or spectator ejected from a game will automatically be suspended for 1 week. Suspensions include all functions including practices and participation in the next game. An ejection by the game referee, regardless of the reason, cannot be overturned by the TCFC, Region, or the National office.

Overtime

6U Division games tied at the end of regulation will end in a tie. The 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U divisions must play overtime if there is a tie at the end of regulation. The Florida High School tiebreaker system will be used to determine a winner.

Football Rules

Florida High School Athletic Association rules will be in effect with the exception of specific rules noted in the National Pop Warner Rule Book:

Official footballs and sizes for each division are defined in the National Pop Warner Rule Book and are required to be used in all games.

Football Scores

It is the responsibility of the field administrator to submit the game scores each week to the TCFC. To keep the standings current, the scores are due to the TCFC by noon Sunday.

Cancelled Football Games

In the event that a local County or Association closes its fields due to a hurricane, flooding, natural disaster or other reasons outside the control of the TCFC, all scheduled games at that field will be played as soon as possible thereafter. In the case of a complete weekend cancellation for the entire conference, the TCFC President shall decide if the schedule permits any makeup dates.

In the event of lightning or weather that is considered threatening, the head game official or field administrator will notify each sideline and all participants must be removed from the field as quickly as possible. Play will resume at such time as conditions improve or such time as the lightning detectors deem it safe. It is important that good judgment be used. Every effort should be made to play the game/games even though a lengthy delay may be necessary. However, if the suspended game cannot

be resumed 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the next game, that game shall be suspended and rescheduled. The next regularly scheduled game shall start at its regularly scheduled time. All incomplete games should be reported immediately to the TCFC Football Commissioner. Any incomplete games should be completed the following day, but shall be completed no later than the next Tuesday. If a team has previously scheduled game on the following Tuesday then the association presidents will be required to have the game rescheduled by the following Tuesday. The home team is required to secure the fields and referees including paying for the referees. Ideally, the rescheduling should be done with both head coaches and prior to the referees leaving the field. In the event that the associations cannot get the game successfully rescheduled under these guidelines then the TCFC will intervene and have the final authority as to when the game will be played. The TCFC will allow play at a later date ONLY in the case of continued poor weather or a scheduling conflict with the game officials.

At no time should the entire day be canceled unless the field is closed by the local city or county. Games are to be canceled on a game by game basis. **Game locations and or times shall not be modified without prior TCFC approval.**

Forfeited Football Games

In the event that a team forfeits a game for not enough players or for any other reason, the forfeiting team and/or association (whether they are the home team or visiting team) will pay for the referees for that game. Location of play and those managing such location will not be responsible for referee fees.

TCFC Playoff Seeding and Tie Breaking Rules

Final Conference Standings and Playoff Seeds will be determined by counting the divisional win/loss record for the season.

The top 4 teams from the 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U divisions will qualify for the playoffs. **The TCFC may modify the number of playoff teams each year at their sole discretion.**

Tie Breaker #1 – Head to Head

If two teams are tied for a playoff seed in the final standings for their division, the winner of the regular season game between the two teams will become the higher seed. If the two teams did not play each other during the regular season, the seed will be determined by a Kansas City Tie Breaker. If the two teams played twice during the regular season and each team had one win and one loss, then the tie would be broken by a Kansas City Tie Breaker.

Tie Breaker #2 – Kansas City Tiebreaker

If 3 or more teams are tied for a seed, those seeds will be determined by a Kansas City Tie Breaker unless one team has defeated all of the other teams that are tied. In this case, the team that has beaten all of the other tied teams will advance and the remaining teams will revert to tiebreaker #1 and possibly tie breaker #2. Teams will play the tie breaker until a seed is determined. The time, location, and matchup of the Kansas City Tie Breaker will be determined by the TCFC.

In the event of an out of the ordinary seeding scenario not covered by the above tie breaking rules, the TCFC will determine the final playoff seeding.

Pop Warner Event Request Forms

Event request forms are required for the following:

1. Scrimmage with another association outside of the conference
2. Tournaments
3. Bowl games
4. Parades
5. Halftime events
6. Fundraisers
7. Anything outside of regularly scheduled events.

Events/parties/activities are prohibited at any beach or pool. All events must include a minimum of 2 coaches in attendance as defined in the Pop Warner Rule Book. The event request form is available on the TCFC website: tfcpopwarner.com.

Any association who plays a scrimmage or bowl game without an approved event request form on file with the TCFC may be fined or removed from the conference.

Fundraising

All fundraising is the responsibility of each Association. Any and all fundraising proceeds are to be processed through the association's bank account. Coaches/Staff are not permitted to fundraise on their own at any time.

Spectator and Non-Participant Conduct

The Treasure Coast Conference has a "Zero-Tolerance" policy towards Spectator/ Non Participant misconduct. All member associations, through the TCFC and National Pop Warner Rules have the duty and obligation to enforce the code of conduct on all adults and nonparticipants as outlined in the current Pop Warner Rule Book.

Any person directing negative or inappropriate gestures or verbal comments towards a player, coach, or official will be asked to leave the premises, without warning, and may be suspended for 7 days and a minimum of a one game. Any official on site can make this determination including the Referee, Association President or Board Member, Field Official, TCFC Board Member, or Law Enforcement Officer.

Any person smoking on the premises will be warned one time to stop. The second infraction will result removal from the premises.

Alcohol is strictly prohibited at all Pop Warner sanctioned events including practices and National events.

Coaches Conduct

All football and Spirit coaches will follow the current Code of Conduct as outlined in the most recent Pop Warner Rule Book.

Coach Ejected from a Game or Spirit Competition:

First Offense: Any coach who is ejected from a game or spirit competition will be automatically suspended from the next game and from that coming week's practices. The ejection is not subject to appeal.

Second Offense: If a second offense occurs within one (1) full year from the date of the first offense, the offending coach will be suspended indefinitely pending a conference hearing. The Conference hearing will determine the punishment for the second offense. The minutes to the hearing are not public knowledge and all decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

All coaching complaints must be brought before the association president within 48 hours of the infraction. It is the responsibility of the association to hold a hearing, if necessary, to resolve the complaint.

Abusive language will not be tolerated on the sideline by any participant, coach, or spectator. Cursing or abusive language can lead to the individual being removed from the park and possibly suspended for one week. This includes all practices and Pop Warner events.

All volunteers and coaches must follow the Members Code of Conduct in the current Pop Warner Rule Book.

Cheer & Dance

The TCFC Pop Warner Cheer & Dance season will begin on August 1st and continues through July 31st of the following calendar year. **The cheerleader's age on July 31st of the current year shall be the cheerleader's age for the coming season.**

Spirit/Cheer and Dance Squads

New participants with no cheer experience shall be placed in the lowest division for their age range.

Example: A 9 year old can be a MM, JPW or PW. A new inexperienced cheerleader must be placed on Mitey-Mite as that is the lowest division in their age range.

Age Matrix for Cheer and Dance Teams

TINY-MITE:	ages 5, 6 & 7
MITEY-MITE:	ages 7, 8, & 9
JUNIOR PEEWEE:	ages 8, 9, 10 & 11
PEEWEE:	ages 9, 10, 11 & 12
JUNIOR VARSITY:	ages 10, 11, 12 & 13
VARSIITY:	ages 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16

Each cheer/dance team is assigned to one football team and may not cheer for any other division/team.

Example: There are 2 JPW football teams but only 1 JPW cheer team. The cheer team needs to decide which JPW team they will follow since they cannot alternate and cheer for both. A good way to determine which team to follow is to find out if any cheerleaders have siblings on the football teams and the majority decides which team they follow.

A cheer team without a football team will be allowed to cheer for another division.

Example – Cheer has JPW but football does not. The JPW cheer team can cheer for the PW football team. If there is a cheer team that does not have a football team please coordinate their game schedule with your LCDC.

Drops

Any cheerleader that quits after final certification must be removed from the book and the roster. **If the drop occurs after September 10th the cheerleader must remain on the roster and an absentee form should be placed on top of the player card for the remainder of the season.** Please see your LCDC for details. The Cheer Coordinator must email the LCDC to make roster changes, sign and stamp new rosters.

Cheer Coaches, Training, and Rosters

Staff Requirements:

All coaching staff including demonstrators and trainees must complete the YCADA and SE Region certification courses. Team parent needs YCADA only. **Only Rostered/certified coaches are authorized to work/train cheer and dance teams.**

**** ANY NEW COACHES MUST TAKE A “LIVE” HANDS ON CLINIC ****

Maximum Staff = 8

- 1 Head Coach
- 3 Assistant Coaches
- 1 ACDC
- 1 Team Parent
- 2 Student Demonstrators /or/Coach Trainees

Pop Warner rosters were designed for football. Cheer does not need a Trainer, Equipment Manager, etc. and those slots will no longer be utilized.

Pop Warner requires 1 Adult coach for every 12 participants on a team; a max team of 35 would require a minimum of 3 coaches. The above breakdown still provides for more than required. You do not need to utilize all 8 slots but there are 8 available.

Student demonstrators are 14 to 16 years old and must also be 2 years older than the oldest participant on the roster. A coach trainee is 17 years old. Student demonstrators and coach trainees require the same certifications as an adult coach (YCADA and SE Region certifications). In addition, they will have the same paperwork as a cheerleader and will be placed in the team book. A team parent only needs YCADA certification. The ACDC, assistant coach and head coach need both YCADA and SE Region.

Make sure your rostered staff can participate and commit to practices and games, not just names to fill your roster. **Make sure there is more than 1 coach with the entire team for practices and games regardless of what the coach to child ratio is.** Leaving 1 coach accountable for the team is a liability.

This gives room for children or parents to report things said or done by the sole coach present without opportunity for the sole coach to defend themselves as they had no backup or witness. If a TCFC Board Member shows up at a practice and sees only 1 coach present your practice will be ended and the kids sent home. No exceptions.

The TCFC has final approval for all football and cheer/dance coaches. The TCFC reserves the right to deny any football, cheer/dance coach, or volunteer from participation at their sole discretion and without appeal.

Team parent

A team parent is not a coach and cannot assist with the team in any type of coaching manner. They are not considered back up staff should you have only 1 coach on hand for a practice or game. They are not to instruct the children in any way. A team parent is there for you to assist with informing the parents, fundraising, parent meetings, paperwork, books, etc. and not to help you coach or train the team. If a TCFC Board Member attends a practice and observes a team parent coaching by giving physical or verbal critiques, they will be removed from your roster.

Team Declarations

Team Declarations will be due to your LCDC on a specified due date. Cheer Teams that are level 3 and 4 must be approved by the TCFC League Cheer and Dance Coordinator (LCDC).

Cheerleading at Football Games

Cheerleaders are expected to participate as part of the football team at each game including away games. The participating cheerleaders must be from the rostered team at the level participating. Failure to participate at games will lead to the suspension of the head coach for one week which includes practices. It is expected that coaches encourage the girls to attend and enjoy the games. It is also encouraged that the cheer team do a halftime show for their parents and fans. If there is an opposing cheer team, coaches are encouraged to get the teams together to perform for each other. Badges must be worn by coaches during practice, games and competitions. If at any time a coach loses his or her badge, the coach must notify their Cheer LCDC as soon as possible.

Cheer teams will check in at every game with their team book. If a cheerleader is absent she will be marked absent in the team book. It is recommended that each cheerleader not miss more than 2 games in a season. Each cheer team will remain on the field while the football team is on the field unless they are taking a break. Inclement weather will be addressed by the referees or field staff when bad weather is in the area.

TEAM BOOKS MUST BE PRESENT AT ALL PRACTICES, GAMES, COMPETITIONS, AND FUNDRAISERS. A TEAM IS PROHIBITED FROM PRACTICING, CHEERING AT A FOOTBALL GAME, COMPETING, OR FUNDRAISING WITHOUT THE TEAM BOOK PRESENT. No player shall practice or participate without a current and valid Pop Warner Physical on site at all times.

Cheer and Dance Competition

The TCFC will host a Conference Cheer/Dance Competition every year. In order to offset the costs of judges, trophies and participation gifts, the TCFC will charge admission for this event. All cheer and

dance teams are required to attend and participate in the TCFC Cheer and Dance Competition. Any Association that does not show for the local competition with no prior notice or approval to not attend will receive a \$500 fine from TCFC. Each association that has cheer and dance teams will provide three (3) volunteers to help work the TCFC Cheer and Dance Competition throughout the day. The LCDC will be given the volunteer names and she will assign them a shift and a duty.

The Regional competition and National competition are required should TCFC Teams qualify to compete at the next level. Failure to participate will result in a \$1,000.00 penalty per event and the program will be subject to removal for upcoming seasons.

Only rostered staff (8 maximum) will be able to be with the team at competitions. This included Regionals and Nationals.

Any team found *paying* for outside help to choreograph, train, or tweak a routine will result in dismissal from their current team and association, as well as all conference programs indefinitely.

Spring and Summer Cheer

Pop Warner Cheer is considered a year round sport. Associations are encouraged to keep teams active and busy in the spring and summer seasons. This can be done by having skill building or basic workout practices. Cheer teams will be allowed to participate in outside competitions and showcases. However, the submittal of an event request form is required 2 weeks prior to attendance. Submit your event request form to your LCDC for her to submit to the RCDC and then Nationals. (This is required for insurance purposes.)

Once a season is completed a coach is automatically terminated. Potential new coaches and returning coaches/team parents will need to go through the interview process with each association to be placed for the following season starting on August 1st. Student demonstrators and coach trainees may return and will be placed at the discretion of the ACDC.

Social Media

To uphold the goals of Pop Warner and ensure that all participants have the benefit of a safe and fun learning environment, all parents, guardians and other adults and attendees of Pop Warner events, including but not limited to practices, competitions, and banquets, always must behave accordingly in a respectful, courteous and sportsmanlike manner.

Any board member, rostered personnel, parent, participant or any another individual in conjunction with PWLS that posts on any social media network disparaging remarks regarding an association, the conference, and/or organization will automatically be suspended. This includes any remarks that instigate/initiate/prompt others to say or post disparaging remarks regarding an association, the conference and/or the organization and its agents.

Pop Warner/SE Region/TCFC board members reserve the right to suspend and/or remove any individuals from the program or its events in order to ensure the safety of its members and uphold its mission.