

# **Beulah Bulldog Youth Football & Cheerleading 2010 Handbook**

## BEULAH BULLDOG YOUTH FOOTBALL & CHEERLEADING 2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Parent Code of Conduct**

- I will help the coach aid my child by making certain my child is on time and properly equipped for all practices and games.
- I will support my child's team and the BBYF&C as they strive to give my child a positive experience. I will volunteer when I can. I understand that my child's coach has volunteered to spend countless hours of their personal time with my child.
- I will support all coaches and BBYF&C volunteers working with my child. I will remember that the game is for the youth; not the adults.
- I will abide by the following rules at all times:
  - No pets of any kind, except service animals, are allowed inside the fence around the football field.
  - No weapons of any kind are allowed at any BBYF&C event.
  - Alcohol is not permitted at the football fields.
  - Smoking and other tobacco use is permitted in designated areas only.
  - No profane, abusive, or threatening language is permitted at any time at a BBYF&C event.
  - Violence or physical confrontation of any type will not be tolerated.
  - No roller skates, bicycles, or skate boards are allowed inside the fence around football field.
- I will respect the officials and coaches in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all. I will respect their authority during games and at practices. I will never question, discuss or confront the officials or coaches after a game. If I wish to talk to the coaches I will do so in a respectful manner after or before a practice. I will never confront or disrespectfully address an official after a game.
- I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of that team.
- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice and other youth sporting events.
- I will remain in the spectator area during the contest and at practice and will cooperate with all BBYF&C volunteers.
- I will remember the game is for fun; winning should never be placed ahead of the emotional and physical well being of any child. I expect my child and his coach to do the best they can, that is all I can expect.
- I will cheer for my child's team in a positive manner; refrain from being negative toward the opposing team, the officials, coaches, or BBYF&C volunteers.
- I understand there will be no profanity under any circumstance before, during or after a Beulah Bulldog Youth Football & Cheerleading event. I understand that if I choose to use profanity during these times, I will immediately be asked to leave the facility.
- I further understand that I am subject to the NWGYFL rules and expected to abide by these rules as posted at [nwgyfl.com](http://nwgyfl.com).

I understand the above expectations of me as a parent. I also understand that it is my responsibility to make sure any guest of mine at a Beulah Bulldog Youth Football & Cheerleading event understands and conforms to these expectations. I further understand that any violation can result in me not being able to attend BBYF&C events, including practices or games, and may lead to my child being removed from the league.

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**GENERAL RULES**

1. A parent or guardian **MUST** accompany each child at all practices and games. If you are unable to attend with your child, please advise the coach and/or team parent, in writing who will be responsible for your child in the event of an emergency or inclement weather. (This person must be 18 years old and able to transport your child).
2. Drive slowly as you enter the parking area and watch for children running between the cars.
3. Parking is a premium at our field. Park only in marked parking spaces. For the safety of our children and the potential access of emergency vehicles, Douglas County Park and Recreation Park Security and Douglas County Sheriff's Department strictly enforce laws against parking in fire lanes, blocking access gate or parking on walking track. Your vehicle will be towed if parked in these areas.
4. Parking **IS NOT** allowed inside the fence around football field. Vehicle access to this area is limited to emergency vehicles, concession staff for deliveries or BBYF&C volunteers for deliveries. Coaches and parents may not park in this area.
5. Alcohol, drugs, firearms, knives or other types of weapons are prohibited at Deer Lick Park, in the parking lot or at any facility where our children may participate. Violators are subject to arrest.
6. Smoking and other tobacco use is permitted in designated areas only.
7. Chairs, tents, and strollers are not permitted on the stands. Cushions and stadium seats are permitted.
8. Good sportsmanship is expected of everyone! All persons are required to conduct themselves in a manner that sets a positive example for our children whether you are in the stands, on the sidelines and whether you are at Deer Lick Park or at another Associations' field or cheerleading competition venue. Use of profane or vulgar language will result in immediate ejection from the park.
9. Maintaining a clean park is the responsibility of everyone. Keep trash picked up in and around the football field, restrooms, and concession stand. Leave the facilities cleaner than you found them. This is especially true when playing away games. Please be considerate of our hosts and clean up after yourselves when playing at another Association's park.
10. **NO ANIMALS** of any kind, except service animals, are allowed inside the fence around the football field. This is for the health and safety of our children.
11. For insurance and safety reasons, **NO** informal football, baseball, soccer, or any other activities are allowed on the fields during practices or games.
12. Unless specifically requested by coach, parents cannot be on the field for any reason. This applies to both practices and games. Should your child become ill or injured, the coaches will determine the seriousness of the injury and send for you as appropriate.
13. Merchandise sales or fundraising booths are not permitted unless approved by the BBYF&C Executive Board.

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**BACKGROUND CHECKS**

1. Northwest Georgia Youth Football League, Inc. (NWGYFL) and BBYF&C, Inc. require a Background Check of any adult over the age of eighteen (18) on the sidelines during an NWGYFL sanctioned game that is not a member of the officiating crew and not a member of the “chain crew” or “stickmen”.
2. A person on the sidelines or assisting with practices considered a coach shall have a Background Check and current NYSCA certification.
3. Teams which have a Trainer, Team Mom, Team Dad and/or Play Counter or any other person on the sideline shall have a Background Check.
4. BBYF&C Board Members, Directors, Coordinators, Coaches, Assistants shall all have and pass a Background Check.
5. BBYF&C is required to provide a Background Check for each coach and/or individual who would be on the sideline to the NWGYFL. This shall include, but not be limited to, convictions both inside and outside the State of Georgia, for the following, within the last 10 years:
  - i. Any crimes against children
  - ii. Any Felony Conviction involving violence
  - iii. Any Felony Drug Convictions
  - iv. Any Felony Assault Convictions
  - v. Any Felony Battery Convictions
  - vi. Any Pending charges described in “i” through v
6. The items listed in “i. through v.” above shall immediately disqualify a person from coaching or sideline participation at all NWGYFL & BBYF&C events.
7. Any person who fails the criminal Background Check listed above may appeal to BBYF&C Board and ask for a review of their information. This shall happen prior to the August Meeting of the NWGYFL Combined League Members and Commission. Upon review the Commission may recommend that the issue is brought before the Combined Meeting of the League Members and Commission in August for a vote to allow an exception.

**COACHES CONDUCT**

1. Coaches are the front line for the BBYF&C program and are expected to conduct themselves in an upright manner, setting a great example of good sportsmanship, respect, clean conduct and competitive spirit for all participants and parents.
2. Coaches are to coach all participants to the best of their ability and not focus just on their child. Failure to do so may result in being removed as a coach.
3. No coach shall act in an unsportsmanlike manner (including, but not limited to taunting, intimidation and threats), at any time while at any location hosting a NWGYFL, Inc. or BBYF&C, Inc. game, practice or event.
4. Any coach heard using profanity at a BBYF&C, Inc. or NWGYFL, Inc. sanctioned event by a Commission Member or an Official will be immediately ejected from the game, practice or event and must be removed from the park. BBYF&C, Inc. and the NWGYFL, Inc. reserves the right to consider further disciplinary action up to and including permanent removal from BBYF&C, Inc. and NWGYFL, Inc.
5. Any coach who is ejected from a game shall immediately leave the park and any sight of the playing field, and shall be suspended from the next regular season game. Said coach will not be allowed to participate in any practices during the suspension. If the same coach is removed a second time because of misconduct at a game, said coach shall be suspended from further participation in the BBYF&C, Inc and NWGYFL, Inc.
6. Any coach who is involved in a physical confrontation with any other person at a game, practice or other event will be suspended for one (1) calendar year.
7. At the discretion of NWGYFL, Inc. any coach may be removed or suspended at anytime for any behavior that does not meet the ethical standards of fair play including the Article II of the NWGYFL Constitution.

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**CHEERLEADING INFORMATION**

**REGISTRATION FEE**

The Registration Fee for Cheerleaders is \$150.00 per child with a \$25.00 discount for multiple participants (cheerleading or football). A Camp Outfit (shorts and shirt), required, is \$30. \$20 fee will be applied for any returned checks. Non Douglas County residents will be assessed a \$25/child fee as required by the Douglas County Youth Sports Manual.

**GAME UNIFORM FEES**

In addition to the registration fee, the uniform cost for new cheerleaders is \$335.00. This cost includes the following: Skirt, Shell, Bloomer, Turtleneck, Pants, Socks, Shoes, Hair bow, and Bag. There will be a jacket available for order at an additional charge of \$70.00.

June 5<sup>th</sup> Fitting: \$200 deposit due - uniform will not be ordered if deposit is not paid and child is not fitted

Upon Receipt of Uniform (Approximately Week of August 2<sup>nd</sup>) the balance of \$135.00 will be due before the uniform will be distributed.

Returning cheerleaders who have their full uniform from last year will be responsible for new shoes, which are estimated to be \$40.00. If you have lost or damaged pieces of your uniform and they need to be replaced please let the Cheerleading Director know which items you will need and she will get a price quote for you.

Practice uniforms should consist of comfortable shorts and shirts. Hair longer than shoulder length should be pulled back. Athletic shoes must be worn. Camp Uniform must be worn to Thursday nights practice. Cheerleaders are also prohibited from wearing jewelry, makeup, artificial fingernails or colored fingernail polish to practices, games, or cheerleading competitions.

**SHOES PROVIDED WITH YOUR UNIFORM ARE FOR GAMES AND COMPETITIONS ONLY  
AND SHOULD NOT BE WORN TO PRACTICE.**

Cheerleaders must be on time to practices and games. "On time" means on the field ready to cheer having already gone to the bathroom and been supplied with a drink.

Cheerleading squads are aligned by age consistent with the football teams. Maximum size for the cheer squads is 35, except for the 5&6 year old squads, which have a maximum of 20. Registration is on a first come first serve basis. Places cannot be reserved on a squad until all fees are paid in full. Should a roster become full, a waiting list will be maintained.

Practices will begin on July 26<sup>th</sup> and will be conducted on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 pm throughout the entire season. Competition practices will begin the second week of September and will be held on Mondays and Tuesdays. Thursdays will be half-time practices.

All cheerleaders are encouraged and expected to participate on the cheerleading competition squad. Cheerleading competition typically occurs on Sundays in early October. Any cheerleader with three (3) unexcused absences to competition practices will be unable to compete with the squad. Absences due to school or church events may be excused provided the situation is reviewed with the head coach PRIOR to the absence.

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**FOOTBALL INFORMATION**

**REGISTRATION FEE**

The Registration Fee for Football Players is \$150.00 per child with a \$25.00 discount for multiple sibling participants (cheerleading or football) prior to May 31, 2010, \$175.00 per child with \$25.00 discount for multiple sibling participants prior to July 31, 2010 or \$200 per child after August 1, 2010 (no multiple sibling discount). A \$20 fee will be applied to any returned checks. Non Douglas County residents will be assessed a \$25/child fee as required by the Douglas County Youth Sports Manual.

**UNIFORM FEES**

In addition to the registration fee, the uniform cost for all football players is \$70.00. This cost includes the following: Game Jersey, Undershirt and Socks. This fee is due at Registration.

**EQUIPMENT**

Football equipment consists of one (1) game day home jersey, one (1) helmet, one (1) set of shoulder pads, and one (1) pair of game pants.

These items remain the property of BBYF&C, and are issued to you for your child's use and protection. **No alteration may be performed without the prior written permission of the Football Director.** After the team's last sanctioned BBYF&C event, on a date and manner agreed upon by the Football Director and head coach, the equipment must be cleaned and returned to BBYF&C without change in condition or appearance – normal wear is expected. The proper care and safeguarding of these items are your responsibility. You will be expected to pay for any equipment that is lost, damaged, or not returned at the end of the season. Upon request, the Football Director will provide a schedule of costs for issued equipment. No decorations of any kind may be applied to BBYF&C helmets. **ANY HELMETS WHICH ARE LOST OR DAMAGED (including the application of helmet decorations) MUST BE PURCHASED FOR THE REPLACEMENT COST.** Lost helmets cannot be replaced until the replacement cost has been received by the BBYF&C Treasurer.

**GAME PANTS AND GAME JERSEY'S SHALL NOT BE WORN DURING PRACTICES!**

**EQUIPMENT NOT COVERED BY REGISTRATION FEE**

Each player is responsible for obtaining their own shoes (rubber cleats only, no metal or hard plastic replaceable cleats allowed), pads for pants, socks, mouthpieces, practice jerseys, and any additional pads that the player may want.

**PRACTICES**

Practice begins on Monday, July 26th. Teams may practice up to five times per week until the third Sunday in August. After the third Sunday in August, practices are conducted on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings. Practices commence at 6:30 pm and end no later than 8:30 pm. The coach or team parent will contact you in the event a practice is cancelled or rescheduled.

**MINIMUM PARTICIPATION**

Each football player who has not missed any practices during the prior week and is not injured or under discipline by the head coach shall play a minimum of eight (8) plays per game for D1 teams and twelve (12) plays per game for D2 teams.

**CERTIFICATION**

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Certification of age for all participants is required by the football conference we are a member of, the Northwest Georgia Youth Football League (NWGYFL). Cheerleading competitions also have similar certification requirements. For these reasons, a **Certified Birth Certificate (with Raised Seal)**, is required for every football player and cheerleader.

**Notarized copies, and/or hospital certificated of birth are not acceptable.**

After certification, all birth certificates will be returned to the parents as soon as possible through the Team Parent. Those children, whose ages are not certified, will be ineligible and will not be allowed to participate in BBYF&C sanctioned activities. The NWGYFL Certification form will need to be signed by a parent listed on the Birth Certificate or a guardian listed on the guardian papers.

### **AGES AND WEIGHTS FOR FOOTBALL TEAMS**

<b><u>COMPETITIVE DIVISION (D1)</u></b>	<b><u>WEIGHT</u></b>
Five (5) & Six (6) Year Old	80 lbs
Seven (7) Year Old	90 lbs
Eight (8) Year Old	100 lbs
Nine (9) Year Old	110 lbs
Ten (10) Year Old	120 lbs
Eleven (11) & Twelve (12) Year Old	140 lbs

For all age groups, the child must be that age as of August 1, 2010. The exception to this rule is for 5 year olds. The child must be 5 years of age by December 31, 2010 for eligibility to play.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL TEAMS (D2)**

The NWGYFL created the Instructional Team (D2) concept to insure that new football players have a valuable first football experience. BBYF&C may form Instructional Teams (D2) if sufficient registration and volunteer coaching resources exist. The following Instructional Teams (D2) may be formed by BBYF&C:

5 Year Old	70lbs.
5 & 6 Year Old	80 lbs.
7 Year Old	90 lbs.
8 Year Old	100 lbs.
9 Year Old	110 lbs.
10 Year Old	120 lbs.
11 & 12 Year Old	140 lbs.

Players will be assigned to Instructional Teams after the first week of practice. Head coaches will explain the process of assigning players to the Instructional Teams during the first week of practice.

Instructional teams will play an extended regular season schedule with a single championship game at the end of the season for the team from Eastern Division with the best winning record and the team from Western Division with the best winning record. Players on Instructional Teams will participate in all BBYF&C activities, including Picture Day, Homecoming, and the Post-season Banquet.

If an Instructional Team is formed, an attempt will be made to form a Cheerleading Squad for that team. If an insufficient number of Cheerleaders exists, or if an additional volunteer coach cannot be identified, cheerleaders will alternate between Competitive (D1) and Instructional (D2) games.

### **PRESEASON**

All football players are eligible to start practice the week of July 26th. Practice will begin at 6:30 pm and end no later than 8:30 pm.

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The first three days a player comes out to practice will be in HELMETS and SHORTS ONLY for conditioning. If a player starts football one week after practice has started and the rest of the team is already in pads, that player must still be in a HELMET and SHORTS for 3 days of conditioning before he will be allowed to participate with full pads.

Practices may be conducted five (5) days a week during the first two weeks in August. Thereafter, practices are conducted three (3) times per week – Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings.

### **REGULAR SEASON**

Game schedules will be posted on the NWGYFL website ([www.nwgyfl.com](http://www.nwgyfl.com)) and BBYF&C website ([www.beulahbulldogs.com](http://www.beulahbulldogs.com)), as soon as they are finalized by the NWGYFL. Times and locations will vary from team to team.

Most games are held on Saturdays, with the exception being possible Tuesday night games. Five (5) & Six (6) Year Old games typically start at 9:00 am, with the older teams playing later in the day, possibly starting as late as 9:00 pm.

We travel to play games with Associations from various parks in surrounding areas. Teams are located throughout Douglas County, Cobb County, South Cherokee County (Woodstock), and Paulding County (Hiram).

The hosting Association may charge a three dollar (\$3.00) per adult admission at regular season games. Everyone, including coaches will be expected to pay an admission fee at parks other than BBYF&C's home park – Deer Lick Park. BBYF&C Football and Cheerleading Coaches (wearing their Coaches shirt and appropriate identification) will not be required to pay the \$3.00 admission fee at BBYF&C home games played at Deer Lick Park.

## **GAME DAYS**

### **ARRIVAL OF FOOTBALL PLAYERS**

**Player MUST be at the playing field 1 hour 30 minutes prior to game time.** This allows players time to line up for weigh in, gives them time to stretch and warm up before the game. Players must weigh in 1 hour before game time. Players that miss the pre-game weigh in will not be allowed to play in that game.

### **ARRIVAL OF CHEERLEADERS**

Cheerleaders should arrive at the field 30 minutes prior to game time. This will allow them time to get organized, stretch, prepare their banners and run through any last minute preparations.

### **COMPLAINT/GRIEVANCE PROCESS**

Although it is our hope each year that no problems will arise, we have found that on occasion a conflict will develop which requires attention. If you find yourself in that situation and you feel that special attention is warranted, the accepted process to address a concern is described below:

1. Please remember that all Coaches, Team Parents and BBYF&C Board Members are volunteers who are offering their time to work with your child.
2. Your first point of contact to discuss any issue is the head coach for the team on which your child participates. However, you should not do so in a confrontational manner, nor should you approach the coach on the game field or with eyesight or earshot of the children. Game days are not the appropriate time to approach the coach. Please wait until before or after the next scheduled practice to discuss your issue, and please do so away from the children.
3. If you receive no satisfaction from the head coach or you are not comfortable approaching the head coach, you should contact the Football Director if it is a football issue or the Cheerleading Director if it is a cheerleading issue to discuss the matter. The Football Director or Cheerleading Director will investigate the matter, schedule a meeting with the appropriate coach/coaches,

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and provide you with a response. If a meeting between you the parent and the coach is appropriate, the Football Director or Cheerleading Director will conduct such a meeting and act as arbitrator.

4. If you are not satisfied with the resolution while working with the Football Director or Cheerleading Director, you may file a formal complaint with the BBYF&C Board of Directors by contacting the President or Vice President. The formal complaint must be filed in writing. Upon receipt of the formal complaint, the President shall call a special meeting of the Board, review the complaint, and appoint a Grievance Committee to investigate the circumstances associated with the matter. The President shall serve as the Chair of the Grievance Committee. The Vice President shall serve as the Chair if the complaint is against the President. You will be advised in writing of the Board's decision and any actions the Board takes in regards to your complaint.
5. If the complaint involves the Football Conference or the Cheerleading Conference, a formal charge (or complaint) in legible print shall be made to the Football Director or Cheerleading Director. The formal charge will be provided to the President for immediate submission to the appropriate authority.

**DIRECTLY APPROACHING A COACH DURING A PRACTICE, GAME,  
OR COMPETITIVE EVENT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. ABUSIVE BEHAVIOR OR PROFANE LANGUAGE IN THE  
PRESENCE OF OUR CHILDREN WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND MAY RESULT IN IMMEDIATE EJECTION AND  
PERMANENT EXPULSION FROM THE PARK. PULLING YOUR CHILD FROM A GAME BECAUSE YOU ARE  
UNHAPPY WITH WHAT IS GOING ON IN A GAME CANNOT AND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND MAY CAUSE  
YOUR CHILD TO BE REMOVED FROM THE TEAM.**

### **INSURANCE INFORMATION**

Participation in Beulah Bulldog Youth Football & Cheerleading sanctioned events is immediately covered by an insurance policy acquired by BBYF&C. The coverage provided is secondary to any insurance coverage that you may already have for your child.

In the event of an injury, contact your coach. An insurance claim form may be obtained from the BBYF&C Secretary and must be completed in its entirety by the parent or guardian of the injured child and returned to the Secretary within 10 days of the date of the injury or incident.

### **CONCESSION STAND/GATE DUTY**

Our Concession not only provides great ballpark food, snacks, and beverages, it also serves as our primary fundraiser. In an effort to maintain low prices while providing reasonable return to BBYF&C, each parent is expected to work their fair share. Significant planning takes place to ensure that the parents of each participant are scheduled to work either Concession Stand or Gate Duty. If you have more than one (1) child registered at BBYF&C this season, you will be scheduled to work either Concession Stand or Gate Duty for each child. If the BBYF&C Board chooses to institute an "Opt Out" of Concession Stand or Gate Duty, you may do so by filling out a form and paying a fee of \$100.00 per child before August 3, 2010.

**If you do not show up for your respective duties without due and verifiable cause as approved by the Board, you will be fined \$125 and your child will be suspended from practice for 1 week and suspended from the next football game or cheerleading competition. The suspension will continue until fine is paid in full.**

Please remember BBYF&C is a volunteer organization. If everyone assists where they can with field set up, break down, homecoming, fundraising etc., the more successful the program will be and the better experience it will be for your child.

### **FUNDRAISING**

BBYF&C will hold various fundraising activities during the year. Monies raised will primarily be used for year-end banquet and awards. Each child is expected to raise \$50 in fundraising for the BBYF&C program.

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### REFUNDS

A full refund of registration monies paid (**excluding uniform fees**) will be provided for football players or cheerleaders who withdraw from BBYF&C by August 6, 2010. A partial refund (50%) of registration monies paid will be provided for football players or cheerleaders who withdraw from BBYF&C after August 6, 2010, but on or before August 13, 2010. No refunds will be provided for football players or cheerleaders who withdraw from BBYF&C after August 13, 2010. Any refunds will be issued to original payer and may take up to 10 business days for processing.

### UNPAID FEES

All BBYF&C Football and Cheerleading registration fees and uniform fees set up on a payment plan must be paid in full **by the first regular game** of the season. Failure to pay will result in your child not being able to practice or compete until payment is complete. Any outstanding competition fees, fines, or other funds owed after this date must be paid in full by November 22, 2010 for your child to receive year-end awards and participate in year-end programs.