

TOY BOWL ASSOCIATION  
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Revised: 10/09/2011

ARTICLE 1 TITLE

This non-profit organization shall be entitled, the Toy Bowl Association of the Diocese of Birmingham.

ARTICLE 2 PURPOSE

- To foster the physical, mental, and spiritual development of children in the schools and parishes of the Diocese through participation in organized team sports and track and field athletics.
- To encourage the laity in general and the parents in particular to take an active role in support of the Toy Bowl Program.

ARTICLE 3 MEMBERSHIP

- Each school or parish will have the right to appoint 1 member to the Council. The selection of this nominee will be left to each school or parish. That person shall be the Athletic Director for the school or parish.
- A quorum shall exist when half or more of the appointed representatives are in attendance at one meeting.
- The ex officio member of the Council shall be the Superintendent of Schools or her deputy. The Council shall have the right to appoint additional members at large to take advantage of their special skills, experience or interests.

ARTICLE 4 OFFICERS

- Members of the Council will be elected by the Council to fill the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer.
- Other officers may be elected at the discretion of the Council to meet particular needs or fulfill particular functions. (Basketball Commissioner and Volleyball Commissioner).

ARTICLE 5 VOTING

- Each School/Parish has one vote.

ARTICLE 6 AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

- The Toy Bowl Association Council shall be an executive body responsible for the good conduct of the toy Bowl Program consistent with the general policy laid down by the Bishop.
- Th Council shall have the right to consider and vote on any matters, in their opinion, pertinent to the conduct and performance of the Toy Bowl program.

ARTICLE 7 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- Amendments to the constitution may only be passed at a general meeting and then by a two-thirds majority vote when a quorum exists.
- Amendment 1 (passed March, 2001) All rosters must be verified and signed by the Principals and/or the Parish School of Religion Director and the Athletic Director of the Parish.

## BY-LAWS

### ARTICLE 1 MEETINGS

- The Council shall normally meet at least three times a year.
- Extraordinary general meetings may be requested at any time by any member of the Council.
- Any member of the Council requesting a special meeting must first notify the Secretary, who will pass the request to the other officers, who will decide whether or not the need exists for a full meeting. If such a meeting is called due notice must be given to all members of the Council.

### ARTICLE 2 DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

- The President shall preside at all meeting and shall ensure that observance is paid to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Council. The President in consultation with the other officers shall have the authority on their judgement, or at the request of another member, to call a special meeting.
- The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping minutes of all meetings dealing with correspondence relating to work of the Council, preparing agendas and maintaining all other such records as may be necessary.
- The Vice-President shall act in place of the President as necessary.
- The Treasurer shall receive and hold all monies accruing to the Council and be responsible for the payment of duly approved bills and other disbursements.

### ARTICLE 3 PROTESTS AND DISPUTES

- The Council will handle all protests and disputes. Protests may be made by E-mail or letter to the specific Commissioner of the Sport. It will then be the responsibility of that Commissioner to call a meeting if he/she deems it necessary. All protests must be made within 48 hours of the event in question.(24 hours if it is a tournament game)

### ARTICLE 4 SPORTSMANSHIP

- Any Coach who is ejected from a Toy Bowl sponsored event by a referee or umpire employed by the Toy Bowl to officiate at the event, shall be suspended for a minimum penalty of one game. The Council reserves the right to extend that suspension if the Council approves.
- Any coach who is ejected from a game twice in one season shall be barred from coaching in any Toy Bowl sponsored event for the balance of that school year and entirety of the following year.
- A coach may file an appeal in writing within 48 hours to the Commissioner of the sport. The Council will then review the appeal and decide its merit. All decisions by the Council will be final.
- If a team plays a player not on the Official Roster, the Coach shall be banned from any Toy Bowl sponsored event for the balance of the season and the entirety of the next year.

## ARTICLE 5 CODE OF CONDUCT

- In order to ensure the continuation of the atmosphere of good sportsmanship and Christian conduct at athletic events sponsored by the Toy Bowl Association, each coach will be required to sign and abide by the Code of Conduct as stated in these By-laws. Each Parish or School will be responsible for these signed forms, and must be able to present them at the request of the Council.
- The Athletic Director of each school or parish will sign each form as well, verifying that the coach will abide by these rules and regulations.

## ARTICLE 6 TEAMS

- Member organizations shall have the right to enter one or more teams in each division. Divisions are defined as follows:
  1. Starter Division-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade students and under
  2. Flea Division- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade students and under
  3. Junior Division- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students and under
  4. Senior Division- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students and under
- The following regulations apply to students in all divisions:
  1. They attend the Parish School
  2. They are enrolled in the Parish School of Religion and attend classes regularly.
  3. They are attending another Catholic School which is not participating in the specific Toy Bowl sport.
  4. Students who attend a Parish School but are registered members of a different Parish that does not have a School may play for their School or Parish, but not both. They must declare for which team they will play and must be included on that team's official roster only. Upon registering for a team for which they wish to play, they are committed to playing for that team for that sport season.
  5. Players who attend a School without a Parish must play for their School.

## ARTICLE 7 ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to play in a Toy Bowl sponsored event, all players must have a copy of their original birth certificate on file with Toy Bowl. Eligibility rules are as follows:

- Players who have reached their 9<sup>th</sup> birthday before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year **may not** participate in the Starter division.
- Players who have reached their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year **may not** participate in the Flea division.
- Players who have reached their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year **may not** participate in the Junior division.
- Players who have reached their 15<sup>th</sup> birthday before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year **may not** participate in the Senior division.
- Once official rosters are turned in and a game has been played, a player may not switch teams or divisions. Players may only play for 1 team.

- In the event any ineligible player participated in any game, regardless of length of time, or reason, the game shall be forfeited, and shall be considered a two point win for the opposing team.
- Roster changes will be set by each individual sport. Players added after the start of the season must sit out one game.

#### ARTICLE 8 REFEREES AND OFFICIALS

The Toy Bowl Association shall not allow a game to be officiated by:

- Parents of players involved in that game
- Siblings of players involved in that game
- Coaches or athletic directors of teams involved in that game unless extraordinary circumstances, and both coaches agree that such officials are acceptable to them
- If a suitable referee cannot be obtained by Toy Bowl, that game will be rescheduled.

#### ARTICLE 9 SCHEDULES

- The league schedulers shall consider **all written requests submitted on the proper form** from participating teams regarding scheduling considerations. However, due to the number of teams involved all requests may not be able to be adhered to.
- Once the schedule has been published no changes will be allowed except for those mentioned in the rules of each sport.
- The Commissioner of each sport shall have the right and responsibility of rescheduling events that cannot be played on schedule because of inclement weather or the unavailability of a suitable playing site.