

Bylaw 1-Name, Purpose, Objectives, General Terms, and Mission

1.1.1 Name

The name of this limited liability company is Florida High School 7v7 Association, LLC.”.

1.1.2 Common References/Trade Names

This association is commonly referred to as the “Association” or the “FHS7v7A.”

1.1.2 Location of Office

The Association Office is located in Saint Augustine, Florida.

1.1.3 Type of Organization

The Association is a member driven organization, run by high school football coaches to serve high school football coaches in the offering of the sport of 7v7 football in the State of Florida.

1.2 Purpose

The Association is a third party association that supports the sport of Interscholastic 7v7 Football in the State of Florida by High Schools by providing its member schools with an organized, and safe 7v7 football experience. This is NOT A SCHOOL ORGANIZED PROGRAM and the coaches and athletes involved and participating will have joined a 3rd party sanctioning organization in order to play 7v7 football. The Association will comply with all FHSAA guidelines governing off season and summer activities as it relates to off season programs or third party affiliated events and activities.

1.3 Objectives

FHS7v7A was developed by High School Football Coaches and Athletic Directors, for High School Coaches and Athletic Directors. For years, high school football players have wanted to improve their skills and have an extra opportunity to earn exposure in the sport of football and their school coaches have had to turn to “all star teams” and “all star tournaments” for these outlets. No longer is that the case.

FHS7v7A offers High School Coaches and their athletes the opportunity to join a 3rd party association and compete in the sport of 7v7 football for the “offseason” and “summer” months as determined by FHSAA as a team. Their team. Only players from your school on your team will be allowed to participate and compete in games and the regional and state championships. This is not an all-star event; this is for High School teams to get better at what they do.

Bylaw 2-Expectations of Student Athletes, Coaches, and Other Participants

2.1 Educational Experience and its Relationship to Interscholastic Athletics

While membership in the FHS7v7A is not a school sponsored activity, school and education is still prevalent, and the student athlete model of being a student first, and an athlete second is still the expectation. The FHS7v7A expects that all participants including coaches conduct themselves and follow standards that would be in line with what their respective schools would expect and hold them to.

2.2 Sportsmanship and Ethics for Members

Member Teams of the FHS7v7A must encourage proper character, integrity in education, and promote citizenship. Student Athlete members, member coaches, and all others associated with the member teams including related spectators, should follow the ethical values of honesty, integrity, respect, teamwork, leadership, and personal responsibility. Each Member Team is responsible for maintaining policies that relate to these ethical standards and sportsmanship, and promoting them to their players on a regular basis.

Bylaw 3-Governance & Structure of Association

3.1 Governance

These bylaws, policies, and regulations, govern the Association and its members.

3.2 Board of Directors

3.2.1 Structure

The Board of Directors of FHS7v7A is made up of two members, the Commissioner and Co-Commissioner.

3.2.2 Duties and Responsibilities of the Board

- Adopts and amends administrative policies and regulations that govern the Association.
- Approves and oversees the Association's Budget.
- Assesses the annual membership dues and other fees as applicable.
- Provides Strategic Planning for the Association.
- Authorizes statewide competitions that may or may not lead to state championships and establishes regulations for those contests.
- Reviews recommendations from Advisory Committees annually.
- Serves as decision making authority of the Association.

3.3 Advisory Committees

The purpose of FHS7v7A advisory committees is to evaluate the FHS7v7A program(s) which it is responsible for. The committees shall review FHS7v7A regulations which govern the program(s); offer to the Board of Directors recommendations for change to such regulations as it deems appropriate; and offer advice and guidance to the Board of Directors and staff. By working closely with the advisory committee, the department staff is able to assist in developing rules and policies which create safe, equitable and more competitive programs. Each advisory committee shall meet once a year.

3.3.1 Structure of Advisory Committees

7v7 Advisory Committee

Region 1-TBD
Region 2-TBD
Region 3-TBD
Region 4-TBD
Region 5-TBD
Region 6-TBD
FACA Representative At Large

Athletic Director Advisory Committee

Section 1-TBD
Section 2-TBD
Section 3-TBD
FACA Representative At Large

Officials Advisory Committee

Section 1-TBD
Section 2-TBD
Section 3-TBD

3.3.2 Regions Defined

Region 1-“Panhandle” This Region includes teams located in the following counties: Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Holmes, Washington, Jackson, Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Franklin, Liberty, Wakulla, and Leon.

Region 2-“North Central” This Region includes teams located in the following counties: Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Dixie, Lafayette, Suwannee, Hamilton, Gilchrist, Columbia, Alachua, Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, and Lake.

Region 3-“Northeast” This Region includes teams located in the following counties: Baker, Duval, Nassau, Clay, St. Johns, Flagler, Union, Bradford, Volusia, and Putnam.

Region 4- “South Central” This Region includes teams located in the following counties: Brevard, Indian River, Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, and Hillsborough.

Region 5-“Southwest” This Region includes teams located in the following counties: Manatee, Sarasota, Hardee, Desoto, Charlotte, Lee, Collier, Highlands, Glades, and Hendry.

Region 6-“Southeast” This Region includes teams located in the following counties: Saint Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Okeechobee, Broward, Dade, and Monroe.

Bylaw 4- Contests

4.1 Definition of a Contest

A contest is any competition between organized member teams of this Association in the sport of 7v7, and therefore shall be subject to the regulations pertaining to such contests.

Each team must participate in at least one regular season contest and that contest must be published per FHSAA guidelines of off season participation.

Member Teams are required to send their regular season schedules into the Association so that they can be posted online per FHSAA Compliance Guidelines.

4.1.1 Protests

Any decision made by a contest official shall not be contested. The decisions of the contest official are final. In regular season competition member teams are responsible for having their coaches perform the responsibilities of the contest official. In Qualifying Sanctioned Tournaments, including State Series Tournaments, the FHS7v7A will provide at no cost to the member teams, certified officials from regional officials associations with certified experience in the sport of 7v7.

4.2 Teams With Which Contests May Be Held

4.2.1 Eligible Contestants

Member teams may only engage in contests with the following:

-Other teams that are members of FHS7v7A.

-Once the regular season has completed (May 1st), any member team not competing in State Series Play, season has concluded. At such time, their membership is active until the renewal date prior to the next season, however any engagement in 7v7 or football activities are not with under the scope, jurisdiction, and or liability of the FHS7v7A.

-Teams that are participating in the State Series Play, are bound to participate only with other member teams of the FHS7v7A, until the season concludes with the State Championships at the end of June. If between the time of the qualification round in April and the State Championship Tournament at the end of June, a team or its members participates in 7v7 contests or football activities with a non member team, it does so acting not as part of or under the scope, jurisdiction, and or liability of the FHS7v7A.

4.2.2 Eligible Participants

-Any coach that will be working with or coaching with any of the registered participants on your team, must be also registered with FHS7v7A to be in compliance with FHSAA. Each Team Roster including registered coaches will be kept on file, and be made available to FHSAA upon request.

-Only students that are currently enrolled in 9th, 10th, and 11th grade are eligible to participate in FHS7v7A.

Participants of the FHS7v7A must all be enrolled in the same school at the time of registration and during the season. Participants that are enrolled at different schools are not allowed to participate together on the same team. The only exceptions to this regulation are participants are enrolled in a recognized charter, special, 9th Grade Center, or home school cooperative as recognized and accepted by the FHSAA and is eligible to participate in other interscholastic athletics per the FHSAA with the members of the team at their school.

Teams selecting to participate in Post Season/State Series Tournaments, must submit a 30 man roster to the FHS7v7A office no later than April 13th, 2015, via mail or email.

Bylaw 5-Coaches Regulations and Scope

5.1 Coaches Requirements

Any person or persons acting as a coach or representative of the team is required to be registered as a coach with FHS7v7A, and must have a signed waiver form on file. Registered coaches must be employees of a school system in the State of Florida, whether full time, or supplemented part time "lay" coaches. Coaches that are volunteers and not compensated by school systems but are actively approved and registered volunteers within a school system are eligible to register and be coaches with the Association.

Any person or persons, not employed by whether full time, part time supplemental, or registered and approved volunteer within a school system are not eligible to register as a coach with the Florida High School 7v7 Association.

5.2 Head Coach Duties and Responsibilities

Head Coaches have the duty and responsibility to oversee the members registered to their team within the Association. Head Coaches are required to (a) be familiar with these bylaws of FHS7v7A, (b) confirm that all participants, including assistant coach participants, have access to and understand (i) the rules and regulations set forth by the FHS7v7A, (ii) the insurance coverages provided to all participants of FHS7v7A, and (iii) the inherent risk of participating in FHS7v7A activities and the sport of 7v7.

5.3 Coaches Scope

All participants of the Association registered as a coach are expected to act in a professional, ethical, and safe manner at all times. They are expected to carry out their duties with safety and prudence in mind. Furthermore, coaches should always strive to minimize risk for their athletes participating on their team.

5.4 Coaches and Transportation

Under no circumstances will any coach be responsible for the transportation of any participant to or from any FHS7v7A sanctioned event, practice, or contest, and/or tournament. This includes but is not limited to the transportation of any participant in such coach's personal vehicle. If any coach violates this Section 5.4, such coach will become solely responsible for all and any liability that occurs as a result of the coach's transportation of the participant. In no event will the Association be responsible or liable for actions, claims, damages, or losses resulting from accidents or injuries related to travel to and/or from any FHS7v7A sanctioned event, practice, contest, and/or tournament. Participants including coaches travel at their own risk at all times.

Bylaw 6-Accident Plan

6.1 Individual Team Accident Plans

Each team should have their own accident plan and protocol that is in line with the facility that they are using for practice, home contests and for away contests in the case of emergency. The Head Coach of each team should have this plan on file with them at all times. It is highly encouraged that the Head Coach also has a copy of all participants on their teams current physical, waiver, and emergency contact information at all times in case of emergency.

6.2 FHS7v7A Accident Plan

If an injury or emergency occurs to any register participant or any related person or persons involved with any FHS7v7A sanctioned event, practice, contest and/or

tournament, and emergency medical treatment is necessary, 911 shall be called. If an injury occurs to any registered participant or any related person or persons involved with any FHS7v7A sanctioned event, practice, contest, and/or tournament, the FHS7v7A shall be contacted immediately via email to be made aware of the incident. Subsequently, within 24 hours of the incident, a full report should be emailed to the FHS7v7A's office detailing the incident that occurred. All sanctioned FHS7v7A Tournaments will have a certified medical professional on hand during such tournament.