

DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION:

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

SECTION 1

The name of the organization shall be the Dublin Football League, Inc.

**ARTICLE II- OBJECTIVES**

SECTION 1

The objectives of the organization are:

- To give every eligible youth in the Dublin School District the opportunity to participate in organized football.
- To surround these activities with such safeguards as to warrant confidence in the integrity and administration of Dublin Football League, Inc.
- To protect and promote the mutual interests of athletic teams and youth participants.
- To educate the Dublin Youth in proper moral, mental and physical values so that they may become assets to their community.
- To promote intelligent instruction and training in various football endeavors. Good sportsmanship shall be a prime consideration at all times.
- To protect the youth participant, with adult attitude toward his/her safety. When any player on the field is hurt and is down, the play will stop. Coaches and officials will attend to the injured player first.

**ARTICLE III – RIGHTS, POWERS AND AUTHORITY**

SECTION 1

The Dublin Football League, Inc. organization shall be governed by a Board of Directors.

SECTION 2

Members of the organization consist of parents/guardians of players, players, coaches, board members and committee heads.

DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION:

37  
38 SECTION 3  
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40 The Board of Directors shall consist of a President, Vice-President (Director of League Operations), Secretary  
41 (Director of Registration), Treasurer, Senior League Commissioner, Junior League Commissioner, Flag  
42 League Commissioner, Sponsorship Chairman and Fundraising Chairman, the latter two are board approved.  
43 Coaches will be nominated by the Voting Members of the Dublin Football League, Inc., and approved by a  
44 majority vote of the Board of Directors.

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46 SECTION 4  
47  
48 All members of the Board of Directors shall be nominated to one-year terms at the regular meeting held in  
49 December. The slate of officers will be nominated by voting members of the DFL. The voting members of the  
50 Dublin Football League, Inc. will then vote on the slate of officers at the next monthly meeting.

51  
52 SECTION 5  
53  
54 Changes in the Constitution and Bylaws must be approved by the voting members of the Dublin Football  
55 League, Inc. Passage of amendments shall require a two-thirds vote of all members in attendance.

56  
57 SECTION 6  
58  
59 The Voting Members of the Dublin Football League, Inc. will meet monthly and act on all items brought before  
60 said members. A majority of the voting members in attendance will be required for passage of any motions  
61 presented by a Voting Member, subject to Board of Directors approval.

62  
63 SECTION 7  
64  
65 The board of Directors shall have the right and authorization to elect replacements to fill any vacancy in the  
66 Board of Directors caused by the resignation, removal, total disability or death of any member of the Board.  
67 The term of said appointed member will end with all board members terms, at the next Board of Directors  
68 Election.

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DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION:

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**ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS, QUORUMS**

(Corporation Changes to Organization) (Trustees change to Directors)

SECTION 1

The Annual election of the Board of Directors shall be held at the first meeting following their nominations in December. Changes in Constitution and Bylaws will be handled at the annual meeting only in March. Members eligible to vote are the current Board of Directors, Head Coaches and Committee Heads.

SECTION 2

Special meetings of the Board of Directors and membership may be held at any time at the discretion of the President or upon written request of no fewer than 10 Voting Members of the organization.

SECTION 3

Monthly meetings will be held each month. All members of the organization can attend. Said members not on the Board will be heard after the complete agenda has been discussed. No other individual can speak at the monthly Board meeting unless he/she is on the agenda and members of the Board have been informed as to the intent and contents of his/her request.

SECTION 4

There shall be no quorum required at legal meetings held by the membership, however, said meetings must take place at any of the monthly meeting of the Board and must be part of the agenda.

SECTION 5

There shall be 50% plus one for a quorum requirement for meetings of the Board; all decisions shall be made by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Directors present at said meeting, exception Section 2, Section 4 above.

DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION:

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SECTION 6

All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.

**ARTICLE V - TAX CODE**

SECTION 1

The Dublin Football League, Inc. is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational and scientific purposes including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt Organizations under section 501 ©(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of the future federal tax code.

No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from the federal income tax under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within meaning of section 501 ©(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the Dublin Football League, Inc. is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION:

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RULES. REGULATIONS AND BYLAWS

**ARTICLE I - Meetings**

SECTION 1

Each Head Coach or his authorized representative must attend the scheduled meetings or clinics of the League or contact the Director of League Operations to be excused prior to the meeting. If the Head Coach or authorized representative misses a mandatory meeting, the Head Coach may be suspended for the next game. Head Coaches must be registered and certified with the NYSCA by completing, at least Level 1 certification course and re-certified in subsequent years.

**Article II - Participation and Conduct**

SECTION 1

Eligible players participating in the Dublin Football League are considered those living in the Dublin School District and are in grades (1) through (6). Players from other communities and grade levels will be considered if requested. These players must be approved by the Board.

SECTION 2

All players must have on file with the Director of League Operations, a signed permission to play form, a physical examination form and have paid the registration fee prior to the first practice.

SECTION 3

There shall be no improper language, conduct or actions on the part of the coaches, officials, spectators or players in the process of conducting games, pre-game activities or practice sessions. If a coach is ejected from a game, he must leave the premises or the game is forfeited. After a meeting by the Board of Directors to review the incident, disciplinary action may be considered and imposed.

DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION:

174  
175 SECTION 4  
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177 All players must wear protective gear at all times while actually engaged in contact play, including practice  
178 sessions. This shall include: HELMET, SHOULDER PADS, HIP PADS, and FOOTBALL PANTS WITH  
179 PROPER KNEE AND THIGH PADS AND A COLORED MOUTH GUARD. ATHLETIC SUPPORTERS WITH  
180 CUP ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.  
181  
182 SECTION 5  
183 All active players on a team shall have a STARTING POSITION on offense or defense and shall participate  
184 on the playing field for at least half of the total game. Any flagrant misuse of this rule will mean immediate  
185 disciplinary action against the coach.  
186  
187 SECTION 6  
188  
189 Coaches are not to engage in any extensive physical contact with their players.  
190  
191 SECTION 7  
192  
193 Arguing with, or verbal abuse of the officials, players, or other coaches or fans will NOT be tolerated. Violation  
194 of this rule will result in dismissal of the coach.  
195  
196 SECTION 8  
197  
198 No one is allowed on the playing field or team bench, unless they are directly involved in the game, or  
199 requested by the Director of League Operations. The maximum number of coaches is 4. At halftime help from  
200 the parents may be used to assist with the drinks, etc. At the conclusion of the game each team will shake  
201 hands and leave the field of play.  
202  
203 SECTION 9  
204  
205 Only authorized coaches' players, officials and representatives of the DFL Board of Directors are allowed on  
206 the field of play. Anyone else entering the field of play will be asked to leave. Flagrant abuse of this rule will  
207 constitute a ban for that particular fan from viewing games in the future.  
208

DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION:

209  
210 SECTION 10  
211  
212 The DFL Board of Directors consists of the League President, Vice President (Director of League  
213 Operations), the Secretary (Registrations), the Treasurer, Senior League Commissioner, Junior League  
214 Commissioner, Flag League Commissioner Sponsorship Chairman and Fundraising Chairman, the latter two  
215 who are board approved. Head Coaches are Voting Members but do not serve on the board.  
216

217 **ARTICLE III -General**

218  
219 SECTION 1A  
220  
221 The Senior League will be for players that are entering 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Players at weigh-in 110 pounds and  
222 lighter will be eligible to be running backs or receivers.  
223

224 SECTION 1B  
225  
226 The Junior League is for players that are entering 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Players at weigh-in 85 pounds and lighter  
227 will be eligible to be running backs or receivers. Players with more than two (2) years of tackle football  
228 experience within the DFL are not eligible for Junior League.  
229

230 SECTION C  
231  
232 The Flag League is for players that are entering 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.  
233

234 SECTION 2  
235  
236 Exceptions to 1A, 1B & C will be considered and subject to Board of Directors decision.  
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238 SECTION 3  
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240 Any defensive players may advance the ball after an interception and fumble.  
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DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION:

244  
245 SECTION 4  
246  
247 All players shall be weighed at player evaluations and prior to the draft. Players may wear shorts only at the  
248 weigh-in. The DFL Board of Directors may increase the permissible running back weights throughout the  
249 regular season using an established and consistent weight factor adjustment. Initial weigh-ins will be  
250 conducted by the Director of League Operations or other league official.

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252 **ARTICLE IV - Schedules and Rules**

253  
254 SECTION 1

255  
256 Each team must complete the schedule of league games.

257  
258 SECTION 2

259  
260 The season will consist of a minimum of 6 games and a maximum of 8 games plus selected scrimmages.

261  
262 SECTION 3

263  
264 Practice schedules prior to the start of school shall be determined by the Director of League Operations and  
265 then limited to three (3) per week.

266  
267 SECTION 4

268  
269 In the Junior League the coaches will be permitted to direct their teams from the playing field one coach for  
270 offense and one for defense.

271  
272 SECTION 4A

273  
274 In the Senior League, coaches will direct their teams from the sidelines.

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DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION:

279  
280 SECTION 5  
281  
282 Each team will consist of no less than 15 players, to be determined by the Director of League Operations  
283 following signups.

284  
285 SECTION 6  
286  
287 Any penalty which is a 15-yard penalty under the National Federation of State High School Rules will be  
288 assessed 10 yards.

289  
290 SECTION 7  
291  
292 Each team will be allowed 3 time-outs per half. Time-outs not used in the first half cannot be carried forward  
293 to the second half. Time-outs not used in the second half cannot be carried forward to an overtime period.  
294 Time-out will be one minute in length. Overtime time-outs are detailed in section twenty-one (21). During a  
295 game, the clock will stop in accordance with Rule 3 of the National Federation of State High School  
296 Associations rulebook. This will include, but is not necessarily limited to the following:

- 297  
298 a. Following an injury.  
299 b. Following a penalty.  
300 c. Following an incomplete forward pass.  
301 d. Ball out of bounds.  
302 e. Following a score.  
303 f. An Officials time out.  
304 g. At the end of each period.  
305 h. A charged time out.

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307  
308 SECTION 8  
309  
310 An injured player must be removed from the playing field for at least one (1) down. The Officials will make the  
311 determination if a player is injured. No exceptions will be allowed to this rule. DO NOT MOVE A PLAYER OR  
312 REMOVE HIS HELMET UNTIL THE INJURY IS DETERMINED.

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DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION:

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315 SECTION 9

316

317 The playing time of the regular season games shall be four (4) eight (8) minute quarters with ten (10) minute  
318 halftimes, which includes a 7 minute half and a 3 minute warm-up. Time is to be kept per OHSAA Rules.

319 Ready to Play - at that time the referee signals the ball ready for play, the team has 30 seconds to put the ball  
320 in play by the snap of the ball. The penalty for delay in putting the ball in play is five (5) yards.

321

322 NOTE: The National Federation uses 30 seconds. COMMENT: It will, at times, take longer for younger  
323 players to get organized and get the ball in play. The 30-second rule is intended to speed up play. There is  
324 normally no intent to delay play by these boys in our program. If, in the opinion to the game officials, delay is  
325 intended, the official may stop the clock until the ball is snapped.

326

327 SECTION 10

328

329 Points after touchdown may be scored in two ways: a RUN or PASS is two (2) points, or a KICK is one (1)  
330 point.

331

332 SECTION 11

333

334 For the Senior League the field will be 100 yards in length. In the Junior League, the goal lines will be each  
335 10-yard line, making the playing field 80 yards in length. The end zone for both Leagues will be 10 yards in  
336 length.

337

338 SECTION 12

339 There shall be NO kickoffs. The ball will be put into play on the 30 yard line for Junior League and the 30 yard  
340 line for the Senior League, except following a safety when the ball is placed at mid-field. NOTE: Time will start  
341 on the snap rather than on the ready for play signal.

342

343 SECTION 13

344

345 Any Player is allowed to punt the ball. There shall be **NO** rush on punt plays. Head coaches must notify  
346 officials of his team's intention to punt or not to punt, prior to breaking his team's huddle. After notification, the  
347 team must punt the ball if that is what they declared. Penalty for violation is (10) yards and loss of  
348 possession. Punter has five (5) seconds to punt the ball.

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349  
350 COMMENT: If the center's snap is fumbled or sails over the punter's head, the punter is allowed to gain  
351 possession of the ball. However, the punt must be made from the spot where the possession is made. The  
352 five-second clock should not begin until the punter has possession of the ball. The intention is that if the ball  
353 goes fifteen (15) yards over the punter's head the punting team is penalized by having to kick the ball from  
354 the spot where the possession is made. On the punt, the offensive team must have at least (7) players on the  
355 line of scrimmage at the snap of the ball and no more than 3 players deep to receive the punt. Neither the  
356 offensive or defensive teams may cross the line of scrimmage until the ball is actually punted. There are no  
357 punt returns in either the Junior or Senior League. The ball is dead at the spot the receiving team has control  
358 of the ball or the punting team downs the ball. If the ball is not touched by the receiving or kicking team, the  
359 ball is dead at its final resting point.

360  
361 SECTION 14

362  
363 Any Player is allowed to kick or hold PAT's and field goals. There shall be **NO** rush on kicking plays. Head  
364 coaches must notify officials of his team's intention to kick, prior to breaking his team's huddle. After  
365 notification, the team must kick the ball if that is what they declared. Kicker has five (5) seconds to kick the  
366 ball. Upon a missed field goal, the ball will be placed on the 30 yard line.

367  
368 SECTION 15

369  
370 The official league football for the Senior League will be Wilson TDJ or equivalent and a Wilson K2 or  
371 equivalent for the Junior and Flag Leagues.

372  
373 SECTION 16

374  
375 The Official Football Rules published by the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations  
376 and such changes as currently authorized by them, shall govern all games. If a rule is not specifically  
377 modified by the Dublin Football League in writing, the above listed rulebook shall be followed.

378  
379 SECTION 17

380  
381 The DFL Board of Directors or their designated representatives shall be present at all DFL functions.

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DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION:

384  
385 SECTION 18  
386  
387 No blitzing is allowed by any player. Blitzing is defined as a defensive player who was more than one yard off  
388 of the line of scrimmage at the snap, charging in anticipation or penetrating the line of scrimmage  
389 simultaneously with the snap. A defensive player who has established a position within one yard of the line of  
390 scrimmage, irrespective of whether he is in a down position or in an upright or standing position, will not be  
391 classified as a blitzer.

392  
393 SECTION 19  
394  
395 In the Junior League, only 5 or 6 players can be on the defensive line of scrimmage when the ball is between  
396 the 20-yard lines. The players may line up anywhere on the line of scrimmage within the sidelines. Non  
397 linemen must be at least one yard off of the line of scrimmage. From the 20-yard line to the goal line any  
398 number of defensive players may be on the line of scrimmage.

399  
400 SECTION 20  
401  
402 Any restriction in standard playing time requires the approval of the parent, Head Coach, League  
403 Commissioner, & Director of League Operations.

404  
405 SECTION 21  
406  
407 Overtime – Regular Season - Senior League ONLY - One over time period is played during the regular  
408 season if teams are tied at the end of regulation. Each team will be given an opportunity to score from the  
409 twenty-yard line. A team can get a first down if it reaches the ten-yard line within 4 plays. The clock does not  
410 run during the overtime period. The 30-second rule is in play and kept by the referees on the field. Each team  
411 is given one time-out for the over-time period.

412  
413 Championship games – Junior and Senior League - Overtime will be played until one team has scored more  
414 points than the other in the same number of overtime periods. Each team receives one time-out per overtime  
415 period. Time-outs not used in an overtime period cannot be carried forward to the next overtime period. Time  
416 out will be one minute in length. The ball will be put in play at the twenty-yard line in the first over-time period  
417 and then at the 10-yard for each successive period.

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DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION:

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421 SECTION 22  
422  
423 "It is illegal to have an ineligible offensive player carry the ball or catch a pass on a designed play, regardless  
424 if that said player is weight correct or not." Should there be a fumble caused during the course of action any  
425 offensive player is allowed to recover and advance the ball.  
426  
427 The intent of this rule is to promote the basic fundamentals of football and to teach them throughout the  
428 course of our season. "If a player is lined up as a tackle, teach him to block. Don't design a play to somehow  
429 get him to run the football."  
430

431 SECTION 23

432  
433 Game times are as follows: 12:00, 1:30, 3:00, 4:30  
434

**ARTICLE V - Draft of Players**

435  
436  
437 SECTION 1

438  
439 The draft will be conducted at the special drafting session from a roster of draftees. Players are NOT  
440 permitted to be present during the draft.  
441

442 SECTION 2

443  
444 The draft date will be decided after pre-season signups and conducted and supervised by the Director of  
445 League Operations, Director of Registration, League Commissioners.  
446

447 SECTION 3

448  
449 Sons of Head Coach's and two (2) approved Assistant Coach's will be on the roster automatically. Players  
450 returning to a team by virtue of his father's coaching activity in the previous year will still be considered one of  
451 the allotted three automatic team players even if that father is not coaching in the current season. In other  
452 words, the son counts as a protected player regardless of the new coaching staff. If a coach has sons of

## DUBLIN FOOTBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION, RULES, REGULATIONS, & BYLAWS

### CONSTITUTION:

453 different age (i.e. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade), the younger son will still remain a protected player the following year.  
454 Variations from this rule require board approval.

455

456

457 Section 4

458

459 All new players will go into the draft, as will returning players who elect to go into the draft.

460

### 461 **ARTICLE VI - Code of Ethics and Coaching Guidelines**

462

463 The purpose of these guidelines is to stress for Coaches to:

- 464 • Provide the best possible environment for young people
- 465 • Provide each player with a positive role model
- 466 • Instill sportsmanship and teamwork and not to win at all cost
- 467 • Provide an overall positive experience for all players (maximum participation) regardless of skill level
- 468 • Encourage all participants to use and develop their natural abilities; at the same time realizing that all
- 469 children are different and not to have expectations above any child's physical and emotional development
- 470 • Recognize that Sports is only a small part of yours and a child's life.

471

472 1. I will place the emotional and physical well being of my players above any personal desire to win.

473 2. Consistency in attending scheduled practices and games, if not able to attend a practice or a game,  
474 communicating and delegating responsibilities to an Assistant Coach is a must. Have organized  
475 practices with the object of teaching football.

476 3. No physical violence or verbal abuse may be shown toward children, referees, league officials and/or  
477 spectators, including family members.

478 4. Coaches are charged with motivating children by accepting their natural abilities and by bringing out  
479 the best they have to offer by positive coaching and actions.

480 5. No use of profanity or degrading remarks to children, referees, league officials and/or spectators will  
481 be tolerated. This applies to practices, games or at any DFL function.

482 6. On any playing field during practices or games, no smoking, chewing or snuff.

483 7. No use of alcohol or drugs prior to or during any practice or game at any field.

484 8. **No Coach shall direct, coach or instruct any referee.** Any sort of violence, verbal or physical  
485 abuse will not be tolerated whatsoever. Coaches are allowed to ask the referee for a clarification of  
486 rules only, not judgment calls. REMINDER: The referee is in charge of the game.

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- 487 9. Coaches are responsible for their team members, parents and fans. Anyone acting in an unruly or  
488 UN-sportsmanlike fashion will be ejected from the game and the field. Forfeiture of the game can  
489 result.
- 490 10. Coaches will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all players. The Coach  
491 will remember that he is a Youth Coach and the game is for children, not adults.
- 492 11. Referees will remember that the DFL is an instructional league and they are encouraged to educate  
493 players rather than penalize them. This is assuming the infraction isn't safety related and doesn't  
494 provide an advantage to the player's team.
- 495 The Board of Directors has the sole power and discretion on discipline of Coaches under the above  
496 guidelines. The DFL Board feels that this document is the Coach's first notification of warning. Violations of  
497 these DFL Coaching guidelines (ethics) could subject you to suspension or termination of participation in DFL  
498 activities. Your right of appeal would be in written form to the DFL Board.