

## ***BERKS AREA YOUTH CHEERLEADING BY-LAWS***

### *Article 1 - Name*

- Section I: The name of the organization shall be known as Berks Area Youth Cheerleading League. Hereby referred to as B.A.Y.C.L.
- Section II: B.A.Y.C.L. is an extension of Berks Area Youth Football League, established in 2010.

### *Article 2 - Objective*

The objective of B.A.Y.C.L. shall be:

- Develop fundamentals and skills of cheerleading with dedication to participation and development of youth cheerleading.
- Increase involvement and opportunity for all cheerleaders aged 5 through 12 in grades K-7.
- Equal participation for all member teams on the board of directors.

### *Article 3 - Membership*

- Section I: Active membership shall be available to representatives from all member teams. Member teams to be regulated by B.A.Y.F.L.
- Section II: Teams added by B.A.Y.F.L. shall be added to B.A.Y.C.L.
- Section III: Each member shall be cooperative and contribute to the accomplishments and betterment of B.A.Y.C.L.
- Section IV: Each team shall have 1 representative. In the absence of the representative, an alternate must be sent. Any issue requiring a vote by the general membership shall be made by the team representative to the league. In his/her absence the alternate or other team representative, with prior notice, will be allowed to vote.
- Section V: The representative must be affiliated with an organization affiliated with B.A.Y.C.L.
- Section VII: Dues shall be collected by the Competition hosting school from each B.A.Y.C.L. Member in that respective year. The dues will be determined by a majority vote of the members with in the current year. Any changes to cost must be approved by the majority of the B.A.Y.C.L. Board.

- Dues shall be paid to the hosting school during the August meeting

#### *Article 4 - Meetings*

- Section I: The B.A.Y.C.L. shall hold 1 mandatory coaches' awareness meeting; 1 competition awareness meeting, 1 competition meeting, and not less than 5 general meetings per year. The Director or the Coordinator of all leagues are required to attend the coaches' awareness meetings or equivalent approved by B.A.Y.C.L. in order to allow cheerleaders to do any form of stunting. Highly recommend for all head coaches to attend but required.
- Section II: Coaches awareness meetings shall be held at a member school (location to be determined by availability). Competition meeting to be held at host school with 1 coach from each level (Flag, Mighty Mite, Mites & Midget) who will be participating in B.A.Y.C.L. sponsored competition.
- Section III: Meetings will be structured and conducted as per our by-laws and Robert's Rules of Order.
- Section IV: In order to have a quorum (2) two members of the Executive Board plus a minimum of (2) two league officers and seventy-five (75%) of the B.A.Y.C.L. members shall constitute a quorum which is necessary for the conduct of official business of the B.A.Y.C.L. In the absence of a quorum, no official business may be conducted or voted upon. For any issue to be acted upon, a minimum of two (2) league officers and 75% of the representative members present.
- Section V: All teams must attend all meetings between January and November. Any team missing two (2) meetings during that time shall give up their right to vote for the current year as well as hosting the B.A.Y.C.L. Competition for the current or upcoming year. Any team missing November's meeting shall forfeit all voting rights during that time allowing voting to take place without the 75% necessary to approve a motion.
- Section VII: It is the responsibility of the acting representative to check minutes or initiate any necessary communication.
- Section VIII: The meeting schedule will be announced at the first meeting of the New Year by the Secretary. Meeting locations shall be announced at least 14 days prior. B.A.Y.C.L. monthly meetings will be held the 3rd Monday of the month with the exception of the month of December. There will be no December meeting, enjoy the Holidays. Meetings will proceed in the months of January, March, May and July, August, September, October and November.

### *Article 5 – Officers*

- Section I: Officers of B.A.Y.C.L. will be as follows:
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Rules Interpreter
- Section II: All officers shall be members of B.A.Y.C.L.
- Section III: All members in good standing are eligible to hold any office. In order to be considered in good standing you must be present at 3 consecutive meetings.
- Section IV: There will be at least 1 member certified by AACCA, hereby referred to as “Rules Interpreter” seated on the Board.
- Section V: Any stunting infractions shall NOT be handled by the opposing coach, shall be reported to the Rules Interpreter or a President/Vice President.

### *Article 6 – Elections and Duties*

- Section I: The officers of B.A.Y.C.L. shall be nominated in October and elected each November to a (2) year term. Prior officers are to attend January meeting to assist new officers with taking over their position. All positions will be a two year term with the President and Secretary on even years and Vice President and Rules Interpreter on odd years.
- Section II: The duties of the members are:
  - PRESIDENT – Shall preside at all meetings of the B.A.Y.C.L. and appoint all committees. They shall appoint division representatives upon election in January of each year if appropriate. They shall uphold the by-laws and the constitution and enforce these rules as warranted. They must attend the entire competition.
  - VICE PRESIDENT – Shall assist the President in such a manner as determined. Shall be aware of all actions being considered by the presidents in the event they would have to assume the duty of a President.
  - SECRETARY – Shall be responsible for recording the minutes of the monthly meetings. Shall update the B.A.Y.C.L. website with such minutes, all news and training information in a timely manner. Additionally, they shall be the keeper of

the “Competition Handbook”, complied by all member representatives to assist all teams hosting the B.A.Y.C.L. annual competition.

- RULES INTERPRETER: Shall be trained by A.A.C.C.A. and shall have a thorough understanding of the A.A.C.C.A. rules with B.A.Y.C.L. exceptions. Must attend A.A.C.C.A. training yearly. They must attend the entire competition. This includes all levels.
- LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE: Shall act as a communicator between B.A.Y.C.L. and their member organization.
- Section III: If the office of President becomes vacant between elections, the Vice President will assume the duties of President for the remainder of the President’s term. Should the office of Vice President, or Secretary becomes vacant between elections, the President will appoint a successor who will be confirmed by a majority vote at the next scheduled meeting.
- Section IV: The Executive Board consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Rules Interpreter and shall have the authority to act in the name of the B.A.Y.C.L. during intervals between meetings. Such acts will be subject to confirmation by the membership at the next regular meeting.

### *Article 7 – Eligibility*

- Section I: All teams shall provide copies of their rosters and signed coach’s code of conduct at the September meeting.
- Section II: All organizations shall retain a copy of each participant’s birth certificate and report card for verification at B.A.Y.C.L. September Board Meeting.
- Section III: All member team representatives shall promote spirit and camaraderie toward all coaches and cheerleaders/football players.
- Section IV: There shall not be a B.A.Y.C.L. squad just devoted to competition. Each B.A.Y.C.L. team shall cheer for the appropriate level of ~~must cheer for~~ football.
- Section V: All organizations shall have a minimum of one person within the organization trained and certified by A.A.C.C.A.
  - A copy of the certificate shall be provided to the Rules Interpreter at the August meeting
- Section VI: A cheerleader may not compete on more than one level and must compete at the level they cheer for during the season. No more than 1 child may “age-up” per squad. A cheerleader may not be “aged-down”.

- Flag Pre-K – 1st grade, ages 4-7 (child is 4 before 9/2 and can't turn 8 before 12/31)
- Mighty Mites 2nd – 3rd grade, ages 7-9 (child is 7 before 9/2 and can't turn 10 before 12/31)
- Mites 4th – 5th grade, ages 9-11 (child is 9 before 9/2 and can't turn 12 before 12/31)
- Midgets 6th – 7th grade, ages 11-13 (child is 11 before 9/2 and can't turn 14 before 12/31)
- Section VI: A cheerleader must cheer at 80% of the football games in order to be able to compete at competition. To be considered as a game cheered, the cheerleader must be present through the half time routine.

### *Article 8 – Competition*

- Section I: The first organization up for competition has until April of their year to secure all aspects of the competition.
  - Definition of secure: Granted approval from school and organization in writing.
    - I.e. building use form and emails.
  - Facility and or venue must be approved by the Board.
  - Coaches must provide adequate supervision to manage the risk in cheerleading.
  - There is to be (4) four 5 judges at all competitions, the total of all (4) four scores shall be averaged in determining the final score. ~~lowest and highest scores will be dropped and the remaining 3 will be averaged.~~
    - ~~In the event 5 judges be unavailable, the lowest score shall be dropped and the remaining 4 will be averaged.~~
  - Any changes to the score sheets must be initialed by a judge.
  - Judges must sign off on the placement of all squads at all levels prior to disclosure of placements.
  - Copies of tallied score sheets are to be obtained at time of tallying and are to be provided in total to the President.
  - There is to be no affiliation of any judge with any of the competing schools.

- The rules Interpreter and the President are to be present any time a team is to be called in front of a judge for discussion of rules violations.
- Section II: If first organization concedes by April meeting, the next organization has 15 days and/or the May meeting to secure. If the next organization cannot secure a venue within 15 days, the board will draw from a list of willing participants. The next organization will not forfeit their right to hold competition in the year they were originally designated.
- Section III: Stunting rules **shall** follow Berks County Cheerleading Coaches Association, and A.A.C.C.A with the noted exception of: NO Pendulums or Basket Tosses.
- Section IV: The B.A.Y.C.L. competition shall have a small and large category in each division if appropriate. The small category shall be 15 or less cheerleaders. The large category is 16 to 32 cheerleaders. All competition squads shall have no more than 32 cheerleaders on a mat at one time during the performance, with the exception of exhibition squads, unless otherwise determined acceptable by a majority vote of board members.
- Section V: No All-Star team or its' like may be solicited at B.A.Y.C.L. Competitions.
- Section VI: A child may not cheer for competition unless she/he cheers 80% of the games.

### *Article 9 – Game Day*

- Section I: The home team shall go to the visitor's side at the start of each game to greet the visitors with their hello cheer of their choice. In the case the "home" head coach host does not, the opposing head coach will do so. This procedure needs be explained to first time coaches.
- Section II: Visitors shall perform their half-time routine first, followed by the home team. No routine shall exceed 2 minutes and 30 seconds.