



DEAF REGIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE LLC

COMMISSIONER DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Founder & Commissioner: Tranese Hall

Organization: Deaf Regional Football League LLC (DRFL)

Effective: 2026

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Purpose

The Commissioner is responsible for helping Deaf Regional Football League LLC operate fairly, safely, professionally, and consistently. The Commissioner must act in the best interest of DRFL as a whole and avoid favoritism toward any individual player, coach, or team.

1. League Administration

The Commissioner shall:

- Oversee the daily operation of DRFL.
- Maintain league records and important documents.
- Establish season deadlines.
- Organize league meetings.
- Coordinate league schedules and events.
- Make sure teams follow DRFL bylaws, policies, and registration requirements.
- Maintain professional communication with owners, coaches, officials, players, sponsors, and league staff.

2. Team & Coach Management

The Commissioner shall:

- Review and approve team registrations.
- Review Owner and Coach applications.
- Maintain an accurate list of approved teams.
- Hold or organize preseason owner and coach meetings.
- Explain important league deadlines and responsibilities.
- Make sure team owners maintain updated rosters.
- Assist teams when administrative problems arise.
- Encourage owners and coaches to develop stable teams and responsible team leadership.

3. Player Eligibility & Rosters

The Commissioner shall:

- Review player registration requirements.
- Verify player eligibility when necessary.
- Establish roster deadlines.
- Review requests to add or remove players.
- Review player transfer or release requests.

- Prevent suspended, banned, or otherwise ineligible players from participating when applicable.

A player may not change teams during an active season unless the transfer follows DRFL policy and receives required approval.

4. Game & Season Operations

The Commissioner shall:

- Establish or approve the season schedule.
- Coordinate regular-season games, playoffs, and championships.
- Communicate schedule changes.
- Address weather-related cancellations or delays.
- Assist with field issues when necessary.
- Maintain official standings and league records.
- Work with referees and officials concerning league operations.

Officials maintain authority over gameplay and immediate safety decisions during games.

5. Rules & Bylaws

The Commissioner shall:

- Enforce DRFL bylaws and league policies consistently.
- Make sure approved rules are communicated before the season.
- Review proposed rule changes.
- Recommend changes that improve safety, fairness, organization, or competition.
- Maintain separate game rules for on-field competition.
- Maintain bylaws for league administration and governance.

Your current document already gives the Commissioner responsibility for consistent rule enforcement and investigation of misconduct.

6. Safety

The Commissioner shall:

- Promote player safety.
- Make sure required waivers and insurance requirements are addressed.
- Support officials when they must delay or stop a game due to unsafe conditions.
- Review serious injury or safety incidents when appropriate.
- Address unsafe fields or equipment issues reported to DRFL.

The Commissioner should never require a game to continue when conditions create an unreasonable safety concern.

7. Financial Responsibilities

The Commissioner shall oversee league finances responsibly and maintain separation between **DRFL league funds** and personal money.

Responsibilities include:

- Collecting applicable team and player fees.
- Tracking payments.
- Tracking forfeit fees.
- Maintaining accurate records of league income and expenses.
- Paying approved league expenses.
- Managing insurance, referee, field, equipment, website, prize, and other approved league costs.
- Maintaining a reasonable league reserve when funds permit.
- Planning future-season budgets.
- Making sure prize money or awards are distributed according to DRFL policy.

League funds must be used for legitimate DRFL business purposes.

8. Budget Planning

Before each season, the commissioner should prepare a reasonable league budget based on expected

- Team fees
- Player fees
- Sponsorships
- Donations
- Other approved league income

The commissioner should also estimate expenses such as

- Insurance
- Officials/referees
- Fields
- Prizes
- Equipment
- Website/business expenses
- Administrative costs
- Emergency expenses

The purpose of budgeting is to protect the league, avoid unnecessary spending, and maintain enough money to complete the season successfully.

9. Sponsorships & League Growth

The Commissioner may communicate with:

- Sponsors
- Community organizations
- Business partners
- Media
- Potential supporters

The Commissioner should seek opportunities that help DRFL grow without compromising league integrity.

The Commissioner should clearly distinguish DRFL sponsorship funds from funds raised independently by individual teams.

10. Discipline & Misconduct

The commissioner shall review serious league violations, including

- Fighting
- Threats
- Harassment
- Dangerous conduct
- Repeated unsportsmanlike behavior
- Player eligibility violations
- Team misconduct
- Serious violations of DRFL bylaws

Possible league action may include:

- Warning
- Probation
- Suspension
- Game restriction
- Removal from an event
- Multi-game or multi-season suspension
- League ban

Decisions should be based on available information, official reports, applicable rules, and the seriousness of the incident.

11. Protests, Appeals & Disputes

The Commissioner shall:

- Review legitimate protests.
- Hear applicable appeals.
- Review disputes between teams.
- Consider referee reports, documents, video, witness statements, and other appropriate evidence when available.
- Make decisions fairly and without favoritism.

Your existing commissioner draft already identifies dispute resolution and appeals as part of the role.

12. Conflict of Interest

The commissioner must avoid situations that could reasonably create unfair influence or favoritism.

If the Commissioner has a direct conflict involving a disciplinary matter, protest, or other major decision, DRFL may designate another authorized league representative to assist with review when appropriate.

13. Commissioner Playing Eligibility

To reduce conflicts of interest, an active commissioner should **not participate as an active player during the season while serving in that commissioner role.**

Your current document already contains this no-play rule for commissioners.

14. Communication

The Commissioner should provide important league information through official DRFL communication channels, which may include:

- DRFL Website
- Owner & Coaches Dashboard
- Email
- Text/approved messaging
- Zoom or virtual meetings
- Written league notices

Important decisions should be documented whenever practical.

15. Integrity & Professional Conduct

The commissioner must promote the following:

- Respect
- Sportsmanship
- Fairness
- Safety
- Accountability
- Transparency
- Integrity
- Equal treatment

The Commissioner represents DRFL and should conduct league business professionally.

16. Commissioner Authority

The Commissioner has the authority to make reasonable administrative decisions when existing DRFL bylaws or policies do not specifically address an issue.

Any such decision should be made in the best interest of safety, fairness, and the continued operation of DRFL.

Acknowledgment

I understand that serving as a DRFL commissioner requires professionalism, fairness, accountability, confidentiality where appropriate, and commitment to the best interests of the Deaf Regional Football League LLC.

Commissioner Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Approved by: Tranese Hall
Founder & Commissioner
Deaf Regional Football League LLC (DRFL)

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