

MID-WEST ATHLETIC CONFERENCE BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1: MEMBERSHIP DUES

Section 1: The amount of annual dues for membership in the MWAC is \$100 plus \$25.00 per sport.

Section 2: Supervisors of official fees are to be paid on an annual basis as follows and in effect from 2009 through 2012:

- a. Women's Volleyball- \$150.00
- b. Men's Basketball- \$150.00
- c. Women's Basketball- \$150.00
- d. Men's Baseball- \$175.00
- e. Women's Softball- \$175.00
- f. Men's Soccer-\$150.00

Section 3: The annual dues of each member shall be payable on or before October 15 to the treasurer of the conference.

ARTICLE II: ELIGIBILITY

Section 1: In order to qualify for participation in activities sponsored by this association, a Student or member of school must fulfill these requirements.

- a. Comply with all rules and regulations as prescribed by the NJCAA.
- b. Comply with all conference rules, regulations and decisions.
- c. Abide by all decisions administrated by the NJCAA

Section 2: Each institution must be a member in good standing of this conference in order to enter a team or an individual in any activity sponsored by this conference.

Section 3: A student-athlete on NJCAA Letter of Intent at a MWAC member school will not be allowed to transfer to another member school without sitting out a 12 month period. The 12 month period begins on the release date or conclusion of the letter of intent whichever occurs first. An appeals committee will review extenuating circumstances on this transfer rule and must be submitted to the conference President in writing. The appeals committee and vote will consist of the conference Athletic Director's minus the two individual schools involved in the transfer.

ARTICLE III: SPORTSMANSHIP STATEMENT

Section 1: Student-athletes of a member institution and individuals employed by, or associated with, that institution shall conduct themselves with honest and good sportsmanship. Their behavior shall at all times reflect the high standards of honor and dignity that characterize participation in the collegiate setting. For intercollegiate athletics to promote the character development of participants, to enhance the integrity of higher education, and to promote civility in society, student-athletes, coaches, and all other associated with these athletics programs and events should adhere to such fundamental values as respect, fairness, civility, honesty, and responsibility.

ARTICLE IV: CHAMPIONSHIP POLICIES

Section 1: The Conference will host a championship in baseball, basketball, golf, soccer, and for men; and basketball, softball, and volleyball for women.

Section 2: When at least fifty percent of the member institutions sponsor a sport, a recommendation may be brought to the conference for consideration to conduct a recognized Conference Championship.

ARTICLE V: ALL-CONFERENCE AWARDS

Section 1: Men's league All-Conference Teams shall be selected in basketball, baseball and golf. Women's league All-Conference Teams shall be selected in volleyball, basketball and softball. Coaches will not be allowed to vote for their own players or themselves in any All Conference voting.

Section 2: Post-Season Award Procedures:

a. Sport Chair Person Responsibilities:

The individual sport chairperson will be responsible for the collection and tabulation for their respective sports. The chairperson and the coaches will determine the individual criteria to be placed on the nomination form. (IE...Basketball PPG, Shooting %, Rebounds etc...The same award procedures will be in place for the sports of basketball, baseball, softball, volleyball, and soccer. The awards for golf will be structured the same but determination of the winners will be different.

b. Nominations/Voting:

1. A nomination sheet will be sent via e-mail or fax to all coaches AND Athletic Directors, not more than two and not less than one week from the end of the MWAC regular season. All nominations will be due back within 48 hours of the last regular season game. The conference chairperson will tally the nominations and return back to all coaches/ AD's within 48 hours from receiving the nomination with a set date for final voting and announcement of such vote. Athletes whose coaches fail to turn in nominations or to turn in final votes will be INELIGIBLE to earn All-Conference recognition.

c. All-Academic Teams:

1. The conference will have All-Academic Team compiled of all athletes who earn a minimum of a 3.50 grade point average and have at least two full time semesters of academic work. The list of athletes who qualify, along with their major, grade point average and sport they participate in shall be sent to the MWAC Commissioner no later than June 1. The president will compile the list and mail back out within two weeks of deadline.

ARTICLE VI: CONFERENCE SPORT BY SPORT MEMBERSHIP

MEN'S BASEBALL (9)

1. Danville
2. Heartland
3. Illinois Central
4. Lincoln
5. Lewis & Clark
6. Lincoln
7. Lincoln Land
8. Parkland
9. Spoon River

MEN'S BASKETBALL (7)

1. Danville
2. Illinois Central
3. John Wood
4. Lewis & Clark
5. Lincoln Land
6. Parkland
7. Spoon River

MEN'S GOLF (6)

1. Danville
2. Illinois Central
3. Lincoln College
4. Lewis and Clark
5. Parkland
6. Spoon River

MEN'S SOCCER (6)

1. Danville
2. Heartland
3. Illinois Central
4. Lincoln
5. Lincoln Land
6. Parkland

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL (7)

1. Danville
2. John Wood
3. Lewis & Clark
4. Lincoln
5. Lincoln Land
6. Parkland
7. Spoon River

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL (8)

1. Danville
2. Heartland
3. John Wood
4. Lewis & Clark
5. Lincoln
6. Lincoln Land
7. Parkland
8. Spoon River

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL (5)

1. Danville
2. Lewis & Clark
3. Lincoln
4. Lincoln Land
5. Parkland

ARTICLE VII: SCHEDULING

Section 1: It is the responsibility of each chairperson of each conference sponsored sport to complete a conference schedule on a yearly basis and submit to all specific coaches and athletic directors. The conference meetings that each of these conference schedules should be submitted for approval are as follows:

- a. Volleyball –fall conference meeting year prior.
- b. Golf - coaches set their own schedule.
- c. Men's Soccer – coaches set their own schedule.
- d. Men's Basketball – winter conference meeting year prior.
- e. Women's Basketball – winter conference meeting year prior.
- f. Baseball - spring conference meeting year prior.
- g. Softball - spring conference meeting year prior.

Conference schedules should be circulated amongst those individual coaches and voted on prior to submitting to the conference Athletic Director's for final approval.

Section 2: In cases or situation where games cannot be played as scheduled, every effort should be made between coaches and Athletic Directors to reschedule. In cases when the date cannot be

agreed upon, the MWAC Commissioner and group of Athletic Directors (minus the 2 involved) will make the final ruling. The ruling will be within 24 hours of contact with the Commissioner.

ARTICLE VIII: PROTEST PROCEDURES

- Section 1: Whenever conditions arise that lead to an athletic contest being protested, the protest must be announced to the school and the official in charge of the event and to the game officials for the contest at the time the protest is being made (if they are being used).
- Section 2: The protesting school must file a written report with the Commissioner of the MWAC within three days of the protested event. Duplicates must be sent to all athletic directors in the conference.
- Section 3: The protest must include:
- a. The point(s) in dispute.
 - b. The rationale for the protest.
 - c. The signatures of the respective athletic directors involved.
 - d. The signatures of the officials.
 - e. Other information pertinent to the event.
- Section 4: The Commissioner of the MWAC conference must arrange a conference telephone call of the athletic directors whose schools are not directly involved in the protest within six days of the protested event.
- Section 5: The MWAC athletic directors must determine the validity of the protest and make a ruling.
- a. Any protest of the judgment decision by the officials must be ruled invalid and rejected.
 - b. Any protest of an interpretation of the rules or any other cause for protest must be decided by the athletic directors.
 - c. The athletic directors may seek guidance on the interpretation from the Region Director and/or NJCAA National Office.
 - d. The athletic directors may uphold any portion of the protest while rejecting the remainder.
 - e. If the protest is upheld, the athletic directors may direct the contest to be replayed in its entirety or from the point of protest. They may determine time and place.
 - f. The athletic directors may reject the protest completely.
- Section 6: The Commissioner of the MWAC conference will provide to all schools a copy of the ruling within nine days of the protested event or will inform these schools of the decision to obtain regional or national interpretation.
- Section 7: If either of the schools involved in the protest refuse to accept the decision to replay the contest, that school shall forfeit the disputed contest to the other school involved.
- Section 8: Each school that files a written protest shall pay a fee of \$25.00 to the conference treasurer. **This fee must accompany the written protest.**
- Section 9: The cost of determining the ruling, including phone calls, paper work, etc., shall be borne by the protesting school if the protest is denied. If the protest is upheld the offending school shall bear the cost.