



Mountain West Football League  
CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS  
Version II

ORIGINALLY CREATED DECEMBER 2021

\*\*\*\*\*Last amended February 16, 2023 by Jaye Webster (President)\*\*\*\*\*

## **SECTION I - INTRODUCTION**

This document is a guideline for the collective OWNERS of the Mountain West Football League (MWFL). This collective will hereafter be called the "OWNERS". We expect everyone affiliated with the MWFL to represent the league in a respectful and responsible manner. We expect all OWNERS to respect one another, be mindful that the game of football is the main purpose of our league and work together to make each season a success. The standard set by the MWFL should be upheld by all STAFF, OWNERS, general managers, coaches, PLAYERS, family members and friends of the MWFL. Each OWNER is responsible for and should communicate this standard to any/all parties that are in conjunction with or affiliated with their organization/team.

## **SECTION II - MWFL STAFF**

The STAFF of the MWFL will have the task of acting in the best interest of the league in its entirety. Their goal is to monitor and enforce the rules set forth in this document while eliminating bias and favoritism. They will do their best to be consistent and fair when making decisions that affect the MWFL. The STAFF will listen to and analyze all ideas in conjunction with the MWFL and its OWNERS. They are responsible for determining the best way to administer and implement all relevant and viable options as well as any issues presented to the MWFL. They will do their best to eliminate anything that will hinder the growth of and/or jeopardize the current stability of the MWFL. Their goal is to eliminate unnecessary rules, enforce the current rules and hold all OWNERS and PLAYERS to the same standard of excellence required to be a part of the MWFL. All rulings by the STAFF will be final as long as they have been established using the process(es) explained in this document.

If applicable, the STAFF will consist of:

A COMMISSIONER to oversee all functions of the league.

State Representatives to hear, discuss and represent each state's best interests.

That panel will be referred to as the "STATE REPS".

A Council

Created using well respected affiliates of our league.

A Director of Finance

Will coordinate any/all financial aspects of the MWFL

Director of Officiating

Will coordinate how games are officiated and staffed.

Will vet and educate all potential referees of the league.

Director of Operations

Will regulate, collect and distribute all information in regards to the MWFL.

IT/Webmaster

Will create, update and maintain the website and all platforms that pertain to the MWFL.

Director of Media, Promotions and Marketing

Will update all social media platforms and make sure the league is distributing all information that pertains to the MWFL to our followers.

The STAFF members and positions may change or be amended at any time.

Should the STAFF members/positions change, all OWNERS and necessary parties will be notified via email within 24 hours of the change(s).

Should the need arise, the STAFF and sometimes COUNCIL members will interview, remove, select, vet, add and/or replace members of the STAFF at their discretion.

This process will be handled with the same integrity as any/all other processes described in this document.

No existing STAFF member may be suspended from the league unless they violate one of the bylaws discussed in this document.

Should an issue arise, the STAFF/COUNCIL will discuss the matter and make a final ruling based on the occurrence and how it will affect the status/representation of the league as a whole.

If there is a gross violation of one of the by-laws, the STAFF members not involved in the incident may suspend the STAFF member (either temporarily or permanently) by a simple majority vote.

Should the STAFF vote be a tie/locked, there will be a vote from all members of the BOARD, (to include one vote per current team).

The accused/suspended STAFF/COUNCIL member will not be permitted to vote.

### **SECTION III - NEW BYLAWS & SETTING PRECEDENT**

Should a situation, issue or opportunity arise that is not included in this document, The STAFF will have the responsibility of creating, implementing and enforcing a new bylaw to accommodate the situation, resolve the issue and/or take advantage of the opportunity. Any new bylaws will set precedent and become the new standard for any/all such situations, issues and/or opportunities in the future. Any new bylaw created and/or enforced will include all relevant and pertinent portions of any bylaw already in place and included in this document.

The following process will be followed:

The STATE REPS will focus on whether the potential amendment can be implemented without disrupting the overall stability of the league as a whole.

Each STATE REP will address, listen to and discuss ideas, concerns and solutions with each OWNER in their state/region.

The THREE (3) STATE REPS will vote on the potential amendment.

Each STATE REP will make a case to the COMMISSIONER as to why the potential amendment would be a positive or negative aspect in regards to the teams in their respective state.

Any potential amendment that receives a unanimous vote from the STATE REPS will automatically be accepted/passed and will become binding and final.

The details, stipulations and/or fines associated with the amendment may be discussed and potentially altered by the STATE REPS.

The potential amendment may be referred to the COUNCIL for guidance.

The COUNCIL will discuss the “pros and cons” of the amendment in its current state and discuss ways to better implement the amendment.

The STATE REPS will vote on the potential changes.

Each change presented by the COUNCIL will be voted on separately.

A simple majority vote of the STATE REPS will make said changes binding and final.

The amendment will be added to the Constitution & Bylaws as well as the special listing specifically for these amendments.

An email including the information/details of the amendment will be sent to all OWNERS and all necessary parties.

Any potential amendment that receives a majority vote (but not unanimous) from the STATE REPS can be referred to the COUNCIL for guidance by the minority vote.

The COUNCIL will discuss the “pros and cons” in regard to the amendment.

The COUNCIL will vote to a majority in regard to the amendment.

SEVENTY-FIVE (75) percent is not required in this circumstance.

That vote/decision is binding and final.

The amendment will be added to the Constitution & Bylaws as well as the special listing specifically for these amendments.

An email including the information/details of the amendment will be sent to all OWNERS and all necessary parties.

### **SECTION IV - MANAGING BOARD**

A panel will be created using one representative from all current teams of the MWFL. They shall assist in creating and amending the rules, activities and functions of the MWFL This panel will be referred to as the “BOARD”.

### **SECTION V - LEAGUE BOARD MEETING & TEAM FEE**

The annual BOARD MEETING will be scheduled in regards to the ability of all OWNERS to attend. The location of the meeting will be as close to a central area between Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming as possible. All discussions, voting choices and arguments must be kept confidential among members involved in the BOARD MEETING. Only the final results and decisions should be voiced and expressed to the public and outside of the BOARD MEETING.

Meeting time, location, agenda and schedule will be submitted to all OWNERS at least THIRTY (30) days prior to the scheduled meeting.

These meetings are generally scheduled between January 10 and January 31.

The BOARD MEETING will consist of:

An initial meeting held on Friday that will include but not be limited to::

Returning team roll call

New team applications/voting

Review of the Constitution & Bylaws & all amendments from the previous year  
Payment of TEAM FEES

An additional meeting will be held on Saturday that will include but not be limited to:

League Structure  
No-fly dates for field allocation  
Budget explanation  
SASA

All teams must have at least one representative at all league meetings.

FIVE-HUNDRED (\$500) FINE

The STAFF will not allow more than TWO (2) attendees per team.

All team representatives must show up within FIFTEEN (15) minutes of the scheduled meeting time.

FIFTY (\$50) FINE

All STAFF will be required to wear dress shirts and ties for the first day of the BOARD MEETING and business casual, collared shirts and slacks for the second day of the BOARD MEETING.

All BOARD members are expected to wear a business casual, collared shirt.

No shorts, jeans, hoodies or T-shirts will be allowed.

FIFTY (\$50) FINE

Alcohol will be strictly forbidden at any/all BOARD MEETINGS.

All team representatives must abide by the rules or they will be asked to leave the BOARD MEETING.

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250) FINE

Each team will be limited to only one person speaking and voting for the team in an official capacity.

Private/silent votes will be used for all items except voting that involves New Team Applicants.

There will be no speaking without being acknowledged by the person directing the meeting.

At that time, the "floor" will be employed to the participant.

All OWNERS must refrain from filthy talk, demeaning and/or bemoaning comments.

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250) FINE

All OWNERS must pay their TEAM FEE by the end of the opening session of the BOARD MEETING for the upcoming season.

The TEAM FEE will be determined and submitted to OWNERS at least THIRTY (30) days prior to the scheduled meeting.

Teams that do not pay their TEAM FEE in full by the deadline listed above will be allowed to attend the BOARD MEETING but will not be allowed to vote on nor suggest any new legislature.

In addition, they will not be put on the season schedule or involved in the MWFL until the TEAM FEE is paid in full.

In this case, the BOARD MEETING will be strictly for information purposes should they pay their TEAM FEE in full at a later time.

Any team that has not paid their TEAM FEE prior to the season schedule being created, may not be eligible for the upcoming season and may have to complete the application process the following year in order to rejoin the MWFL.

Any portion of the TEAM FEE paid to the MWFL is non-refundable.

Should the OWNER apply the following year, this amount will be subtracted from the TEAM FEE required to join the MWFL.

Each team is required to submit their TEAM FEE directly to the Director of Finance.

Should it arise, this will alleviate any disputes over the receipt of the payment.

All OWNERS should request and receive a receipt for their records and as proof of payment.

Special circumstances for payment of the TEAM FEE may be approved by the STAFF but must be discussed and resolved between the potential owner and the MWFL STAFF at least 7 days prior to the board meeting.

Any issues in conjunction with the TEAM FEE not being paid will automatically get a potential owner removed from or denied entry into the MWFL.

TEAM FEES are non-refundable after 7 calendar days of the BOARD MEETING.

This will include but not be limited to an OWNER leaving the league or folding for any reason after the aforementioned 7 days.

The STAFF can refund up to 50% of the TEAM FEE as they see fit and will be on a case-by-case basis.

The remaining balance of the TEAM FEE will be forfeited by the OWNER and will belong to the Mountain West Football League.

Any bond(s) shall automatically be forfeited by the OWNER and belong to the Mountain West Football League.

Should the owner wish to re-apply for the Mountain West Football League, they will be forced to act as a new OWNER and follow the process as described in SECTION IX - SCREENING & APPLICATION PROCESS FOR LEAGUE ENTRANCE.

All TEAM FEES must be paid via Venmo, Paypal, cash, direct deposit to bank, cashier's check or money order.

OWNER will be responsible for any/all fees associated with their payment method.

Under no circumstances will personal checks be accepted.

All OWNERS will be required to sign "master" copies of the pertinent MWFL documents to acknowledge any/all proceedings, findings and decisions made in the BOARD MEETING.

By signing these documents, OWNERS are acknowledging that any/all results of the BOARD MEETING have been established using the processes explained in this document.

It is the responsibility of every OWNER to read, understand and discuss any/all of the documents listed below prior to signing the following master copies:

Approved budget for the upcoming season.

Season structure for the upcoming season.

Playoff seeding for the upcoming season.

The Constitution & By-Laws including any amendments in its most current state

Meeting minutes and transcript of the BOARD MEETING

#### LEAGUE FEES OF DEPARTING TEAMS

League Fees become the asset of the MWFL and are in no way, shape or form refunded after a posted football season has taken place. This includes a team that leaves the league willingly, folds, will not have a team in the future or is removed from the league by a process listed in this constitution.

Any balance, money or assets remaining after a posted football season will be carried over and used to continue the growth and continuity of the MWFL.

#### INCOMPLETE/FORFEITURE OF A SEASON

The MWFL will always go above and beyond to provide as many games for as many teams as possible.

This could include teams outside of the MWFL

This could include teams within a reasonable travel radius

Travel radius will be defined as no further than any/all games scheduled by the MWFL

Should a season be canceled or cut short due to unforeseen and uncontrollable circumstances, the MWFL will handle it according to these processes and procedures.

Cease to pay for any remaining items in season budget

This will not include items on a monthly contract that would affect our financial/credit status

Cancel any contracts that can be done so with a minimum penalty that is less expensive than fulfilling the contract

Contact any/all businesses that we paid for item(s) that cannot be used/utilized

Attempt to get a refund/credit

Find a way to use/utilize the item(s)

Try to get a receipt to use/utilize the item(s) in the future

Any balance, money or assets remaining will be carried over and used to continue the growth and continuity of the MWFL.

Any team returning to the MWFL the following season will be compensated and have their LEAGUE FEE discounted to offset money not reimbursed from the canceled season.

This will be determined by the already paid expenses and number of games played.

The remaining balance will be carried over and used to continue the growth and continuity of the MWFL.

Teams not returning to the MWFL the following season will not be compensated more than 50% of their LEAGUE FEE paid for during the canceled season.

This will be determined by the already paid expenses and number of games played.

The remaining balance will be carried over and used to continue the growth and continuity of the MWFL.

The MWFL will provide games for any/all teams that are able/willing to play games within the season.

MWFL money will be used to accommodate/finance these games as a normal season.

Teams that are not able/willing to play games within the season will be compensated in the

next available season

available season

This will include but not be limited to a discount in their league fees in the next

#### **SECTION VI - AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS**

The STAFF of the MWFL will have the task of acting in the best interest of the league in its entirety. They are not put in place to hinder, change or disallow the OWNERS the ability to grow the league and advance the MWFL. However, the STAFF must do their best to maintain a level playing field for current and future OWNERS to participate in the MWFL and uphold the standards set in this document.

All potential amendments by OWNERS must be nominated and seconded, (opened) by two different members of the BOARD.

Once the amendment is opened, there will be a brief discussion in regards to the “pros and cons” of the amendment.

Once all points, concerns and arguments have been heard, the BOARD will hold a vote.

If the amendment passes by a majority vote of SEVENTY FIVE (75) percent, the MWFL STATE REPS will take the amendment for secondary consideration.

With less than a SEVENTY-FIVE (75) percent majority vote of the BOARD, the amendment may put too many OWNERS at a disadvantage and/or make it difficult for the OWNERS to uphold the standards set forth by the league.

A SEVENTY-FIVE (75) percent majority vote will also eliminate some of the difficulty in enforcing the amendment.

The STATE REPS will focus on whether the potential amendment can be implemented without disrupting the status of the league as a whole.

The STAFF will have the authority to change/alter the potential amendment and offer alternate solutions or additional options to the BOARD for their approval.

Each STATE REP will make a case as to why the potential amendment would be a positive or negative aspect in regards to the teams in their respective state.

The THREE (3) STATE REPS will vote on the potential amendment.

Any potential amendment that receives a unanimous vote from the STATE REPS will automatically be accepted/passed and will become binding and final.

The details, stipulations and/or fines associated with the amendment may be discussed and potentially altered by the STATE REPS.

The potential amendment may be referred to the COUNCIL for guidance.

The COUNCIL will discuss the “pros and cons” of the amendment in its current state and discuss ways to better implement the amendment.

The STATE REPS will vote on the potential changes.

Each change presented by the COUNCIL will be voted on separately.

A simple majority vote of the STATE REPS will make said changes binding and final.

The amendment will be added to the Constitution & Bylaws as well as the special listing specifically for these amendments.

An email including the information/details of the amendment will be sent to all OWNERS and all necessary parties.

Any potential amendment that receives a majority vote (but not unanimous) from the STATE REPS can be referred to the COUNCIL for guidance by the minority vote.

The COUNCIL will discuss the “pros and cons” in regard to the amendment.

The COUNCIL will vote to a majority in regard to the amendment.

SEVENTY-FIVE (75) percent is not required in this circumstance.

That vote/decision is binding and final.

The amendment will be added to the Constitution & Bylaws as well as the special listing specifically for these amendments.

An email including the information/details of the amendment will be sent to all OWNERS and all necessary parties.

## **SECTION VII - VOTING**

There will not be an option to abstain.

Votes will be private/silent to avoid apprehension in the decisions, opinions or votes of any/all OWNERS.

This will not include the “NO” votes in regard to a potential new team/applicant.

In this case, the votes will be private/silent but discussed after the votes are tallied and the outcome of the vote has been established.

We feel that these votes should be heard by the BOARD and the STAFF to ensure we are all completely transparent when making decisions on a new team entering the MWFL.

Should the STAFF imply or deem that any “NO” vote falls into one of the following categories, a decision may be made to exclude the vote and/or discuss the OWNERS decision privately before continuing the vote.

Unfair or biased based on personal experience, personal influence or an opinion not relevant to football or the MWFL.

Vote is part of a separate multi-team agreement that could/would sway the outcome of the voting.

Should the STAFF deem a voter breaks this by-law they could be punished and be in violation of behavior detrimental to the MWFL.

In this case, the punishment will be decided by the guidelines listed in this document.

## **SECTION VIII - SALE OF A TEAM, NEW OWNERSHIP AND MERGERS**

The STAFF does not want to hinder or derail an opportunity for an OWNER to make a profit or recoup money from their work/time put into the MWFL. However, the STAFF must make sure that the new OWNER is prepared and capable of representing the MWFL in the same manner as all other OWNERS.

#### Sale of a Team

An OWNER can "sell" their respective team at any time.

However, they must follow these procedures:

The STAFF must receive a document/contract between the parties stating the stipulations of the sale.

This document must be signed by all parties involved and must clearly state that the new OWNER will not automatically be accepted into the MWFL without completing the screening/application process.

The purchaser (new OWNER) must complete the SCREENING/APPLICATION FOR LEAGUE ENTRANCE process prior to being admitted into the MWFL.

All PLAYERS of the team are immediately released.

PLAYERS can sign with any team of their choice.

PLAYERS must resign with the team under new ownership to be considered on their roster.

Should the current OWNER be forced to leave or cannot continue to manage a team after the BOARD MEETING of any particular year, special circumstances may allow a new OWNER to be approved and accepted into the MWFL by the STAFF.

Examples of these circumstances include but are not limited to a new job opportunity, a serious illness or relocation of current OWNER.

All OWNERS will be consulted in regards to any/all new OWNERS that are accepted into the MWFL for this reason.

The STAFF will have the final ruling in this matter.

Any OWNER that owes a fine to or is suspended by the MWFL may not sell the team until the fine is paid/suspension is served unless approved by the STAFF. The fine process is listed below.

Fines will be due no later than FOURTEEN (14) calendar days after the fine is imposed.

To avoid a late fee, fines must be postmarked/paid within FOURTEEN (14) days.

A TEN (\$10) per day late fee will be assessed for each day after the due date.

Maximum late fees will not exceed SEVENTY (\$70) which is SEVEN (7) days at TEN (\$10) each day.

Any OWNER more than TWENTY-ONE (21) calendar days late in paying a fine, will be subject to game forfeitures and any/all fines associated with that penalty.

This may also include suspension from the league as determined by the STAFF.

Should this occur, all PLAYERS will be released and become free agents.

This will not apply should the current OWNER not be selling their respective team.

Any fine issued within TWENTY-ONE (21) days of the end of the applicable season must still follow the same schedule.

Fines will not be carried over and paid on the next season's business.

Should this happen, it will result in that team needing to complete the SCREENING/APPLICATION FOR LEAGUE ENTRANCE process prior to being admitted into the MWFL for the subsequent season.

Should this occur, all PLAYERS will be released and become free agents.

The portion of this rule will not be in effect should the current OWNER not be selling their respective team.

#### Mergers/Joining of Teams

A merger will be defined as any team folding and more than 6 players joining a current team that will remain in the MWFL.

This may be discussed, explained and/or altered by the STAFF based on the circumstances.

TWO (2) teams are allowed to merge and form ONE (1) team. However, the following process, restrictions and guidelines must be followed.

ONE (1) person from the folding team must be added to/present on the new team's governing body.

This person should, but is not required to have input regarding the new team's functions.

This person must have access to and be privy to any/all team decisions, issues, functions and information.

This is for the protection of the folding team's players' rights and/or knowledge of the new team's intentions.

ONE (1) team must officially fold and take on the name of the other team.

A team cannot officially fold if all fines have not been paid and all suspensions served by both teams.

If all fines are not paid and suspensions served, a team is simply suspended and cannot fold.

Until these issues have been resolved, the rules for Individual PLAYER movement/multiple PLAYER movement will apply.

The new team can take up to FIVE (5) PLAYERS that are willing to go to the new team.

If more than FIVE (5) PLAYERS request to leave one team to join another team, the following guidelines must be followed:

The new OWNER must send a list of the potential PLAYERS to the STAFF as well as the old OWNER via email and wait for a response from the STAFF.

No PLAYER FEES should be received from the PLAYERS.

PLAYERS are not eligible to participate in a game prior to a response from the STAFF.

The STAFF may confer with other OWNERS to aid in their decision.

The STAFF will do their best to discuss and understand the reasons for the PLAYERS wanting to change teams, (i.e., OWNER behavior, location, management issues, finances, playing time, etc.)

The STAFF will use (but not be limited to) the following questions when making a decision:

What will the remaining roster of the old team be?

Will the old team be able to sustain and finish the season?

Why are multiple PLAYERS leaving?

What will be the financial ramifications of the PLAYERS leaving?

How many games have been played in the season?

The STAFF will make a decision in regards to PLAYER movement, compensation and status of any/all PLAYERS, teams and OWNERS involved.

These decisions will be based on each individual situation and will not be considered precedent for future issues.

Each will be treated as an isolated situation.

If this merger requires a new team name, it will require reapplication into the MWFL and that procedure must be followed. .

Both teams must release any/all PLAYERS on their current roster.

All PLAYERS of the team are immediately released.

PLAYERS must be free and clear of any/all money owed to the team and not possess any loaned equipment.

PLAYERS will not be released from the team if any money/equipment is owed to that team. .

PLAYERS can sign with any team of their choice.

PLAYERS must resign with the team under new ownership to be considered on their roster.

#### **SECTION IX - SCREENING & APPLICATION PROCESS FOR LEAGUE ENTRANCE**

The Mountain West Football League, its STAFF and its OWNERS reserve the right to deny or rescind any/all invitations to apply for acceptance into the MWFL for any reason. The league is not required to allow entry into the BOARD MEETING for admittance into the Mountain West Football League. Admittance into the Annual League Meeting is by invite only. The league will not be required to discuss their decision to deny or rescind any/all invitations publicly or with the potential OWNER. This will also include but not be limited to any voting results that rule against the potential OWNER not being allowed into the Mountain West Football League.

New potential OWNERS can apply for acceptance into the MWFL. The MWFL should always remain open to the entry of new teams that will expand not only its demographic but also the diversity of the league. However, they will not and shall not feel obligated or be forced to do so.

Prior to the BOARD MEETING, the potential OWNER must do the following:

Complete/submit the screening application and return it to the STAFF prior to the deadline given by the STAFF.

Complete phone interviews with at least TWO (2) STAFF members

Sign agreement that they understand/agree to the expectations of every OWNER in the MWFL

Sign a contract acknowledging that they are aware and agree that the Mountain West Football League reserves the right to refuse or deny admittance into the league without the threat or promise of any future slanderous comments, arguments, threats, penalties or lawsuits. They must agree that they are applying having understood these stipulations.

Attend the annual BOARD MEETING, discuss their team and present all required information to the STAFF.

Information will include but will not be limited to:

Business license

Ledger that is open to STAFF (upon request)

Bank information/signers

OWNERShip/management structure and agreement

This should also include a contingency plan should the structure or agreement be dissolved

Roster verification including PLAYER acknowledgement/expectations

Business plan/structure

Agree to abide by the constitution/by-laws of the MWFL

Pay the non-refundable TEAM FEE in full.

Post a FIVE-HUNDRED (\$500) refundable bond.

Any fines incurred throughout the season will be deducted from this bond.

If the bond is exhausted, there will be a mandatory meeting with the STAFF to discuss any assistance and/or help that can be offered to help with foreseeable issues/situations.

Also, an additional FIVE-HUNDRED (\$500) bond will be required.

Agree to play ELEVEN (11) versus ELEVEN (11), full contact football during a season as specified by a majority vote of the BOARD.

Once a potential OWNER presents their team for acceptance into the league, the potential team will leave the room and all current OWNERS will be allowed to give their feedback

The initial vote will be made blind and will only include the OWNERS of the state from which the team resides.

If the potential new team resides in a state with no other teams or less than THREE (3) teams, the MWFL BOARD may be included in the vote.

If the new team passes with a majority vote, the additional states will then vote for the new team.

These votes are silent/private and each vote of "no" should come with a detailed explanation as to the reason for the vote.

If the vote is unanimous, the team is automatically allowed into the MWFL.

If the vote is not a majority, the status of the application may be discussed and voted on by the STAFF and COMMISSIONER based on a majority vote.

Simple majority will apply in this scenario.

New OWNERS will not be allowed to vote on any changes to the existing MWFL Constitution & By-Laws for the upcoming season.

New OWNERS can offer any new rule change ideas for the upcoming season.

Any/all suggestions must be seconded by a returning OWNER.

New OWNERS will be allowed to vote on these potential rule changes but all rules of this process will apply as stated in GAME PLAY & RULES.

## **SECTION X - GAME PLAY & RULES**

Game rules and game play scenarios will remain at the discretion of the current OWNERS of the MWFL. The process in regards to this will not change from its current state. Any game rule herein may be overruled at any time by a TWO-THIRDS ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) majority vote of the BOARD.

Changes will not be made to the league's original rules (i.e. playing ELEVEN (11) versus ELEVEN (11) full contact football, etc.) that would prevent any existing team from being included in the league.

Any such nomination can/will be vetoed by the STAFF and/or Director of Officiating.

All potential game play/rule changes must be nominated and seconded by two different members of the BOARD.

Once the amendment is "open", there will be a brief discussion in regards to the "pros and cons" of the amendment.

This discussion will involve the Director of Officiating to determine if any/all changes will prevent an existing team from being included in the league.

The Director of Officiating will also consider the ability to hire officials to work at MWFL games and be consistent in controlling and regulating any/all new rules.

Once all points, concerns and arguments have been heard, the BOARD will hold a vote.

All votes will be closed and private/silent.

The game play/rule change must be passed by a majority vote of SEVENTY FIVE (75) percent from the BOARD.

Should the game play/rule change meet the SEVENTY FIVE (75) percent majority vote, the decision is binding and final and the rule will be included in the constitution for the upcoming season.

Specific rule exclusions shall be voted on by the BOARD prior to each season.

The STAFF shall produce and distribute all rule exclusions to each designated OWNER.

## **SECTION XI - ROSTERS**

The inherent principles and assumptions of the MWFL support the notion that a "team" is composed of PLAYERS that support and play for a specific team in the regular season. The MWFL roster rules are consistent with many competitive leagues which define themselves as a "team sport".

Team rosters are limited to FIFTY-FIVE (55) PLAYERS for the Legends Division and FORTY-FIVE (45) for the Leaders Division..

Initial rosters need to be entered into the MWFL website (Hosted Sports) by midnight, TWO (2) weeks prior to the first game of the upcoming season.

This will allow the STAFF to confirm any discrepancies or issues.

Rosters may be changed after the initial roster is submitted per the roster change rules below:

Each team's personal page on HostedSports will be locked and unavailable to be changed at 10:00 pm each Thursday prior to that week/weekend's game.



Each team's personal page on HostedSports will be unlocked and available to be changed at 10:00 am each Sunday after that week/weekend's game.

If, however, the need arises for a submission after the roster page is locked, the change will have to be made by the Director of Operations.

This must be agreed to, in writing, by the opposing OWNER and be posted for all other OWNERS to see. If an OWNER is trying to add a PLAYER within TWENTY-FOUR (24) hours of a regular season game, the opposing team has the right to deny the addition of that PLAYER for that game.

The denial of that PLAYER to play may be appealed to the STAFF.

However, the appeal must be ruled on and the PLAYER must be deemed eligible prior to the game.

The approval to play will only be granted under extraordinary circumstances.

## **SECTION XII - PLAYER RELEASE WAIVERS**

All PLAYERS must fill out, sign and turn in a League Registration Form, PLAYER Release Waiver and copy of the Constitution & By-Laws prior to playing or participating in any games, scrimmages or other MWFL activities.

These are now included as part of the HostedSports registration process. The below instructions can be followed:

Use link located on MWFL website ([www.theMWFL.com](http://www.theMWFL.com))

Click on the Mountain West Football League icon.

Select the team you will be playing for.

Provide all information on the form.

Read and agree to the PLAYER Release/Waiver,

This will confirm that each PLAYER has read and understands this document.

Read and agree to the MWFL Constitution and By-Laws

This will state that each PLAYER has read and understands this document and agrees to adhere to it

If an OWNER/general manager is registering on a PLAYERS' behalf, they will be responsible for making sure the PLAYER is informed and understands what they are signing on their behalf.

An OWNER/general manager will be responsible for any disputes, financial obligations and/or legal action that may arise due to this form being signed by the OWNER/general manager and not the specific PLAYER.

We recommend that each PLAYER is required to fill, agree to and submit their own form.

The STAFF will be excluded from any/all disputes that may arise from the handling of this form.

PLAYERS shall not be allowed to participate in any game(s) or MWFL activity without first signing a PLAYER Release Waiver.

Fines associated with using a PLAYER without having a signed PLAYER Release Waiver will follow the below scale:

1st instance (per PLAYER)

ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE

2nd and each subsequent instance

ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE

FORFEITURE OF ANY/ALL GAMES PLAYED WITH SAID PLAYER

OWNERS are required to sign a Master PLAYER Release Waiver stating that all of their PLAYERS have registered on HostedSports and signed a PLAYER Release Waiver.

Fines associated with not submitting a signed Master PLAYER Release Waiver will follow the below scale:

1st game

WARNING

2nd game

ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE

3rd game

ONE-HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (\$125) FINE

4th game

ONE-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$150) FINE

5th game

ONE-HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE (\$175) FINE

6th game

TWO-HUNDRED (\$200) FINE

7th game

TWO-HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (\$225) FINE

8th game

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (250) FINE

SASA

TWO-HUNDRED (\$200) FINE

This does not include the use of any non-MWFL/replacement PLAYERS

The STAFF will be responsible for gathering all signatures from these PLAYERS.

#### Playoffs

##### TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (250) FINE

When adding PLAYERS after the initial rosters are posted, it is the responsibility of the OWNER to add any/all new PLAYERS to the HostedSports website which ensures they sign the PLAYER Release Waiver.

OWNERS must also sign and send a new Master PLAYER Release Waiver once PLAYER is added

After the initial roster deadline, this process must be repeated each week that a new PLAYER is added.

Any team that allows a PLAYER to participate in a game without first signing a PLAYER Release Waiver, will be fined by the MWFL. PLAYERS will be considered ineligible and incur all fines/penalties associated with this infraction.

A PLAYER will not be allowed to play in a game without the recommended items listed below. Any PLAYER that is allowed to participate in a game without all of the items listed will be considered an ineligible PLAYER and the subsequent fines and/or penalties associated with that infraction will apply. We also recommend items to help prevent injuries but they are not required. Some items are also allowed but are not recommended or required by the MWFL or its STAFF. This list can/may change at any time. Should the STAFF add, remove or edit any items on this list, all applicable parties will be notified via email.

#### Required equipment/safety items:

Football helmet

Chin strap

Mouthpiece

Shoulder pads

#### Recommended items:

Hip pads

Thigh pads

Knee pads

Football/Soccer cleats

#### Allowed, but not recommended items:

Mirrored visors

#### Disallowed/banned items:

Metal cleats/spikes

### **SECTION XIII - PLAYER MOVEMENT & FREE AGENCY**

#### **Individual Player Movement**

A PLAYER will be held under any team that they owe money to or possess any/all equipment that is owned by that team.

In a dispute of a PLAYER having an outstanding debt to a team, including monies, equipment, etc., it is the OWNER'S responsibility to prove the debt.

Any/all fines & suspensions will still apply to PLAYERS and will be owed regardless of team or movement thereof.

If a PLAYER is on an official team roster and plays at least one play during that regular season or any playoff game, he will remain on that team's official team roster the following season.

Teams are strongly encouraged to have a "sign out/sign in" form for equipment loaned to any PLAYER.

PLAYERS are encouraged to request a receipt for any/all PLAYER FEES paid.

Teams are encouraged to have PLAYERS sign a contract including, but not limited to, the PLAYERS and team's responsibilities, expectations and obligations.

To be released from a team, a PLAYER may send a Release Request to their respective OWNER via email at any time. One of the following guidelines will apply:

After a season ends, should a PLAYER not attend any practices, meetings or activities of the team they played for, they will be considered a free agent and no Release Request is necessary.

PLAYERS will be free to choose a team of their choice for the upcoming season.

PLAYERS must be free and clear of any/all money owed to the team and not possess any loaned equipment.

PLAYERS will not be released from the team if any money/equipment is owed to that team.

After a season ends, should a PLAYER attend any off-season practices, meetings or functions after the close of the last season they will be considered a current member of that team's roster and must follow the guidelines below.

If a PLAYER sends a Release Request via email to their respective OWNER prior to January 1 of the next year after which they played for the team:

PLAYERS will be free to choose a team of their choice.

There will be no money owed to the old OWNER.

PLAYERS must be free and clear of any/all money owed to the team and not possess any loaned equipment.

PLAYERS will not be released from the team if any money/equipment is owed to that team.

If PLAYER sends a Release Request via email to their respective OWNER between January 1 and FOURTEEN (14) calendar days prior to the BOARD MEETING for the upcoming season in which they played for the team:

PLAYERS will be free to choose a team of their choice.

There will be a TWENTY FIVE (\$25) PAYMENT due to the OWNER of the team they are leaving.

Payment must be paid before the PLAYER is eligible to play for another team.

This payment can be paid by the new OWNER or the PLAYER.

This payment can be deducted from any refund given to the PLAYER by the previous OWNER.

An old OWNER will not be allowed to keep a PLAYER FEE and receive this payment.

Any disputes in regards to a refund will be based on any/all contracts between owner and PLAYER.

If no contract is signed pertaining to a refund, no refund will be required.

PLAYERS must be free and clear of any/all money owed to the team and not possess any loaned equipment.

PLAYERS will not be released from the team if any money/equipment is owed to that team.

If PLAYER sends a Release Request within FOURTEEN (14) calendar days prior to the BOARD MEETING and FOURTEEN (14) calendar days prior to the first scheduled game of the new season:

PLAYERS will be free to choose a team of their choice.

There will be a FIFTY (\$50) PAYMENT due to the OWNER of the team they are leaving.

Payment must be paid before the PLAYER is eligible to play for another team.

This payment can be paid by the new OWNER or the PLAYER.

This payment can be deducted from any refund given to the PLAYER by the previous OWNER.

An old OWNER will not be allowed to keep a PLAYER FEE and receive this payment.

Any disputes in regards to a refund will be based on any/all contracts between owner and PLAYER.

If no contract is signed pertaining to a refund, no refund will be required.

PLAYERS must be free and clear of any/all money owed to the team and not possess any loaned equipment.

PLAYERS will not be released from the team if any money/equipment is owed to that team.

If PLAYER sends a Release Request within FOURTEEN (14) calendar days prior to the first scheduled game of the new season and once the season starts::

PLAYERS will be free to choose a team of their choice.

There will be a ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) PAYMENT due to the OWNER of the team they are leaving.

Payment must be paid before the PLAYER is eligible to play for another team.

This payment can be paid by the new OWNER or the PLAYER.

This payment can be deducted from any refund given to the PLAYER by the previous OWNER.

An old OWNER will not be allowed to keep a PLAYER FEE and receive this payment.

Any disputes in regards to a refund will be based on any/all contracts between owner and PLAYER.

If no contract is signed pertaining to a refund, no refund will be required.

PLAYERS must be free and clear of any/all money owed to the team and not possess any loaned equipment.

PLAYERS will not be released from the team if any money/equipment is owed to that team.

Once an OWNER grants a PLAYER'S release, the PLAYER must provide this release in writing to the STAFF, via email prior to the roster deadline for the upcoming season.

An official form is available upon request.

Should it be found that a PLAYER owes money/equipment to an OWNER, they will have THIRTY (30) days to pay OWNER and/or return the equipment to the owner.

If needed, a third party will be appointed to receive money/items from PLAYER and/or deliver to respective OWNER.

PLAYERS will not be released until all money is paid and/or equipment is returned.

Should the PLAYER fail to meet this requirement:

There will be a FIFTY (\$50) PAYMENT due to the OWNER of the team they are leaving.

Payment must be paid before the PLAYER is eligible to play for another team.

This payment can be paid by the new OWNER or the PLAYER.

This payment can be deducted from any refund given to the PLAYER by the previous OWNER.

An old OWNER will not be allowed to keep a PLAYER FEE and receive this payment.

Any disputes in regards to a refund will be based on any/all contracts between owner and PLAYER.

If no contract is signed pertaining to a refund, no refund will be required.

Any PLAYER wishing to leave a team after the season starts will have to be in conjunction with the following guidelines:

If the team the player wishes to leave has played TWO (2) league games with that player on the roster, the player cannot be moved to another team without the team OWNER'S approval. They are locked on that roster for the remainder of the current season.

Should the STAFF deem that this PLAYER has been mistreated/treated unfairly outside of normal football practices, been grossly misinformed, lied to or been obviously promised something they have failed to receive, it will be at the discretion of the OWNERS to vote on the outcome/resolution of this situation.

Should this occur, the situation will initially require a conference call/video chat including both OWNERS, the PLAYER and a STAFF member.

After information is gathered, the situation will be presented to the remaining OWNERS and brought to a vote.

#### Multiple Player Movement

The following process is not intended to take away the right of PLAYERS to play for any team they choose. We feel that as a voluntary league, PLAYERS should be allowed to enjoy their football experience as they choose. However, we must protect the integrity of the league and the investment of the OWNERS to allow these PLAYERS these rights. We do not want one team to hinder/eliminate another OWNER'S opportunity to complete a season and fulfill their obligation to the MWFL and the other OWNERS.

If more than FIVE (5) PLAYERS request to leave one team to join another team, the following guidelines must be followed:

The new OWNER must send a list of the potential PLAYERS to the STAFF as well as the old OWNER via email and wait for a response from the STAFF.

No PLAYER FEES should be received from the PLAYERS.

PLAYERS are not eligible to participate in a game prior to a response from the STAFF.

The STAFF may confer with other OWNERS to aid in their decision.

The STAFF will do their best to discuss and understand the reasons for the PLAYERS wanting to change teams, (i.e., OWNER behavior, location, management issues, finances, playing time, etc.)

The STAFF will use (but not be limited to) the following questions when making a decision:

What will the remaining roster of the old team be?

Will the old team be able to sustain and finish the season?

Why are multiple PLAYERS leaving?

What will be the financial ramifications of the PLAYERS leaving?

How many games have been played in the season?

The STAFF will make a decision in regards to PLAYER movement, compensation and status of any/all PLAYERS, teams and OWNERS involved.

These decisions will be based on each individual situation and will not be considered precedent for future issues.

Each will be treated as an isolated situation.

Any PLAYER that leaves the MWFL and decides to come back will still be held under the PLAYER MOVEMENT/FREE AGENCY rules.

If the PLAYER has been away from the MWFL for at least one full season, they become a free agent and can play for any team of their choice.

This will not apply should the PLAYER owe money or possess equipment owned by the previous MWFL OWNER.

In this case, all money must be paid and/or all equipment returned to the previous MWFL OWNER prior to being eligible to play for another team.

#### SECTION XIV - PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

### Registration

Any OWNER that allows a PLAYER to participate in a game without first signing a PLAYER Release Waiver, will be fined by the MWFL

Fines associated with using PLAYER(s) without having a signed PLAYER Release Waiver will follow the below scale:

1st instance (per PLAYER)

ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE

2nd and each subsequent instance

ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE

FORFEITURE OF ANY/ALL GAMES PLAYED WITH SAID PLAYER

To be legal, a PLAYER must be listed on the HostedSports page by his real name (no alias, pseudonym, etc.), his height, weight, and jersey number for that week's game.

### Regular Season

A team should have a weekly copy of their full roster with any/all changes from the week prior.

Rosters are considered official once they are published and locked on Thursdays @ 10:00 pm.

No changes can be made after this deadline.

Each PLAYER should follow the above process and be registered on HostedSports.

This does not only include the PLAYERS that are attending the game but all PLAYERS on their current team

The STAFF suggests that all OWNERS print a copy of their weekly roster.

This should include all current PLAYERS on the roster including injured PLAYERS.

All PLAYERS not in participation should be clearly noted for verification.

List injured PLAYERS that are present at the game.

List injured PLAYERS that are not present at the game.

List healthy PLAYERS not present at the game.

It is the responsibility of each team OWNER to review and validate the accuracy of the opposing team's roster on the MWFL website and report any inconsistencies after the roster change deadline, (Thursdays at 10:00 pm).

Any disputes need to be filed with the Director of Operations no later than TWENTY-FOUR (24) hours prior to the scheduled game start time.

Game film/video is required as proof of participation for any/all disputes in regards to PLAYER eligibility and games played.

Any OWNER allowing a new PLAYER to play who has not been added to a roster, will be fined by the MWFL

Fines associated with using a PLAYER that has not been added to a roster on HostedSports will follow the below scale:

1st instance (per PLAYER)

ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE

2nd and each subsequent instance

ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE

FORFEITURE OF ANY/ALL GAMES PLAYED WITH SAID PLAYER

Forfeiture will not apply if the opposing team is notified and agrees, in writing to the roster change.

ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE WILL STILL BE ASSESSED

Signed document must be submitted to a MWFL STATE REP

An official form is available upon request.

### Injuries

Any PLAYER that has not played in at least ONE (1) regular season game will not be eligible for the playoffs.

This includes any/all injured PLAYERS.

If physically able, injured PLAYERS must show proof that they were on the roster, wearing a team jersey and in attendance for at least THREE (3) games prior to the team's first scheduled playoff game.

The injury must be reported to the STAFF and posted on HostedSports.

This can be done by adding an "INJ" to the PLAYER name on the weekly roster in HostedSports.

The following procedure must also be followed.

If physically possible, the PLAYER must continue to attend the team's remaining home games as a "member of the team" to qualify for the playoffs.

If physically possible, the Injured PLAYERS must wear their jerseys and be present on their team's sideline to qualify for this exception.

### Playoffs

To be eligible for the playoffs, PLAYERS must participate in at least FOUR (4) regular season games and cannot be added to a roster after a team has played FIVE (5) regular season games.

The goal of the MWFL is to prevent teams from recruiting/using players that do not travel.

We hope that all traveling teams are respectful of the home teams and travel with enough players to be competitive.

The goal is to prevent teams from recruiting players that do not live in the home state of the team.

If a PLAYER is injured, please see above guidelines and procedures.

Each team's legal playoff roster will be confirmed by the STAFF before the playoffs begin.

Any team allowing a PLAYER to play in a playoff game that has not met the THREE (3) game minimum, will be fined by the MWFL

PLAYERS will be considered ineligible and incur all fines/penalties associated with this infraction.

Fines associated with using PLAYER(s) in a playoff game who has not been added to their roster will follow the below scale:

1st instance (per PLAYER)

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250) FINE

2nd and each subsequent instance

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250) FINE

FORFEITURE OF ANY/ALL GAMES PLAYED WITH SAID PLAYER

Forfeiture will not apply if the opposing team is notified and agrees, in writing to the roster change.

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250) WILL STILL BE ASSESSED

Signed document must be submitted to a MWFL STATE REP

An official form is available upon request.

If a dispute is raised, the STAFF will investigate which may require visual proof that the PLAYER did play in the required games being reported.

Although not required, the STAFF suggests you film the entire roster prior to each game.

However, should evidence be required this will be the only form of verification.

#### **SECTION XV - TEAM FINES/SUSPENSIONS & PLAYER FINES/SUSPENSIONS**

We expect all OWNERS/Coaches to be in full and complete control of their PLAYERS, STAFF, employees and fans AT ALL TIMES. Fans are not allowed or expected to leave the designated spectator areas in the midst of an altercation, confrontation or injury. We will hold OWNERS responsible for the actions of any/all people affiliated with their organization and will assess fines/suspensions accordingly. This includes but is not limited to banishment from future games and/or events.

##### **Team/Owner Suspensions**

No existing OWNER may be suspended from the league unless they grossly violate one of the existing bylaws.

However, the league may suspend a team (either temporarily or permanently) for any reason by a SEVENTY-FIVE (75) percent majority vote of the BOARD.

The STAFF will discuss the matter, take a vote and make a final ruling on the OWNER/TEAM based on the occurrence(s) and how it will affect the status/representation of the league as a whole.

Should the STAFF vote be a tie, there will be a vote from all members of the BOARD, (to include one vote per current team).

If an OWNER is suspended by the STAFF, the ruling can be overturned by a unanimous vote of the BOARD.

The accused/suspended team will not be permitted to vote.

Should they apply, OWNERS and all team STAFF will also be held to the same SUSPENSIONS as listed below.

##### **Player/Owner Suspensions**

Any/all fines & suspensions will still apply to PLAYERS and will be owed regardless of team or movement thereof.

A PLAYER/OWNER ejected from a game for fighting, (single punch) will:

MISS THE REMAINDER OF THAT GAME

MISS THE NEXT TWO (2) GAMES

PAY A ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE

The fine must still be paid within the normal schedule for fines

Both the fine and suspended games must be resolved before the PLAYER can play again.

A second ejection for fighting, (of any kind) from a subsequent ball game in the same season will result in:

MISS THE REMAINDER OF THAT GAME

INDEFINITE SUSPENSION FROM THE MWFL

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250) FINE

The fine must still be paid within the normal schedule for fines or the PLAYER will not be allowed to play in the league for ONE (1) full year.

Both the fine and suspended games must be resolved before the PLAYER can play again.

At any time, should a PLAYER/OWNER be found to have thrown multiple punches, the PLAYER will:

MISS THE REMAINDER OF THAT GAME

BE SUSPENDED FROM THE MWFL INDEFINITELY

PAY A TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250) FINE

The fine must still be paid within the normal schedule for fines or the PLAYER will not be allowed to play in the league for ONE (1) full year.

Both the fine and suspended games must be resolved before the PLAYER can play again.

A PLAYER/OWNER ejected for unsportsmanlike behavior (non-violent) will be penalized/fined accordingly:

First offense

MISS THE REMAINDER OF THAT GAME

ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE

Second offense

MISS THE REMAINDER OF THAT GAME

MISS THE NEXT GAME

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250) FINE

Third offense

The PLAYEROWNER will:

MISS THE REMAINDER OF THAT GAME

BE SUSPENDED FROM THE MWFL INDEFINITELY

PAY A TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250) FINE

The fine must still be paid within the normal schedule for fines or the PLAYER will not be allowed to play in the league for ONE (1) full year.

Both the fine and suspended games must be resolved before the PLAYER can play again.

Any unsportsmanlike act (violent or non-violent) by a PLAYER/OWNER not covered by the above rules will be investigated and analyzed by the STAFF and will be subject to suspension and/or fines as determined by the STAFF.

Examples include but are not limited to urinating in the vicinity of the field in view/or not in view of spectators, removing a helmet and slamming it to the ground, and/or flipping off the officials or spectators.

Fines/penalties cannot exceed and must be equivalent to one of the penalties listed in this section, TEAM/PLAYER SUSPENSIONS.

The STAFF will have the responsibility of implementing and enforcing a penalty to accommodate the issue. Any fine and/or suspension will set precedent and become the new standard for any/all such incidents in the future. Any punishment/by-law created and/or enforced due to this incident will include all relevant and pertinent portions of any by-law already in place and included in this document.

Any teams involved in a brawl will be addressed using the following process, guidelines and actions.

A brawl is defined as: *a physical fight involving a group of people, esp. in a public place*

A group is defined as: *more than 4 players and/or any number of players, more than one, versus 1 player.*

Team Owner/GM will be fined the initial amount of \$2500.

This amount can be adjusted based on the OWNER/GM's resolution(s) and handling of the infraction.

This will include

Removing players involved in the infraction

Suspending players involved in the infraction

Giving information of players involved in the infraction that are unable to be identified or of police interest

The fine amount will NOT be adjusted lower than the amount of the LEAGUE ENTRANCE FEE for the year in which the infraction takes place.

There will be an automatic \$250 fine for any player involved in the infraction that is not one of the original 22 players on the field when the infraction occurs.

This will also include players that are separating or removing the actual players involved in the infraction.

INFRACTIONS THAT INCLUDE AN AUTOMATIC BAN FROM THE MWFL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Swinging a football helmet at another person/player.

This will be enforced even if no contact is made with another person/player.

Any physical interaction with a fan or a person not in uniform or on a team staff.

This does not include what is decided to be self defense

Any deadly weapons or firearms found on a person, in the vehicle or in the possession of a player during any MWFL sanctioned event.

This will include the time prior to the start of the game as well as the time after the game but prior to the field closing down after the game.

## **SECTION XVI - FINES AND PAYMENTS**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of fines in the MWFL is to control the consistency and functionality for all OWNERS and teams in the league. With a diverse group of managers and a large demographic, certain standards need to be met to ensure the MWFL is always putting out a quality product for everyone involved. Fines are in place to deter any OWNER from ruining the experience for any other

OWNER in any way. OWNERS, teams or PLAYERS who violate any of the articles in this constitution are subject to forfeiture of any/all games and will incur a fine deemed just by the STAFF.

### Process & Payments

The MWFL fine process will be administered and relayed to OWNERS via email by a member of the STAFF. Fines levied by the STAFF will be sent via official email from a STAFF member with the MWFL Director of Finance included in the email.

For OWNERS, fines will be due no later than FOURTEEN (14) calendar days after the fine is imposed.

To avoid a late fee, fines must be postmarked/paid within that FOURTEEN (14) day timeframe.

A TEN (\$10) per day late fee will be assessed for each day after the due date.

Maximum late fees will not exceed SEVENTY (\$70) which is SEVEN (7) days at TEN (\$10) each day.

A player will not be allowed to play in any game with an outstanding fine.

Any OWNER more than TWENTY-ONE (21) calendar days late in paying a fine, will be subject to a suspension, game forfeitures and any/all fines associated with that penalty.

This may also include suspension from the league as determined by the STAFF.

Should a suspension be included in the fine/penalty, the PLAYER must pay the fine prior to playing their next game.

This could result in the fine being paid less than the allotted FOURTEEN (14) calendar days after the fine is imposed.

Any fine issued within TWENTY-ONE (21) days of the end of the applicable season must still follow the same schedule.

Fines will not be carried over and paid on the next season's business.

Should this happen, it will result in that team needing to complete the SCREENING/APPLICATION FOR LEAGUE ENTRANCE process prior to being admitted into the MWFL for the subsequent season.

Any fines incurred in the postseason will still follow the same schedule.

Fines will not be carried over and paid on the next season's business.

Any first year team or team that loses their entire bond to league fines will have to pay a ONE-THOUSAND (\$1000) bond for the next season as well.

The STAFF has SIX (6) days from the original alleged incident to fine and/or suspend a PLAYER, OWNER, general manager or coach.

The amount of allotted time may vary based on an appeal by an OWNER/PLAYER.

The STAFF must inform the accused party via email when the investigation begins.

Submitting an appeal does not allow the PLAYER to play while the appeal process is taking place.

For the integrity and safety of the MWFL, the PLAYER will remain suspended until the appeal ruling is handed down.

This will include any/all appeals to the BOARD.

Once a fine is issued, a team has THREE (3) days to appeal the fine via an email to a STATE REP.

At that time, a team will be required to submit any evidence, proof or testimony regarding the fine/suspension.

If the STAFF denies the appeal, the team may request an appeal to the BOARD requiring a SEVENTY-FIVE (75) percent majority vote to overturn the fine/suspension.

The combination of any/all fines will stack on top of and not replace previous fines.

Example: If you get a fine in week TWO (2) for a uniform violation and a fine in week THREE (3) for the same infraction, the total amount owed will be the cost of both fines. In this case, TWO-HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE (\$225).

Contact Russell Hulse @ [MWFL.russellhulse@gmail.com](mailto:MWFL.russellhulse@gmail.com) for payment information.

With just cause, the STAFF reserves the right to request a copy of any/all team's bank account records and information as well as the ledger showing the account balances and where team funds were allotted.

Just cause is defined as but not limited to the following:

Team invoices, bills and/or expenses are not being paid on time or at all.

Team funds are not being utilized/spent as promised in a team contract/agreement.

The league is contacted in regards to a past due invoice, bill or expense.

The team is folding for the reason of financial hardship.

### Directory of MWFL Fines

The following is the complete list of MWFL fines, penalties and suspensions with the corresponding cost/amounts.

#### BOARD MEETING

NO TEAM REPRESENTATIVE

\$500 FINE

16+ MINUTES LATE

\$50 FINE



OUT OF DRESS CODE		\$50 FINE
NON-COMPLIANCE		\$250 FINE
ABUSIVE/INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE		\$250 FINE
PLAYER RELEASE WAIVER		
USING PLAYER WITHOUT SIGNATURE		
	FIRST	\$100 FINE
	SECOND/EACH ADD.	\$100 FINE
	FORFEIT OF GAME	
OWNER WITHOUT SIGNATURE OF MASTER		
	FIRST	WARNING
	SECOND	\$100 FINE
	THIRD	\$125 FINE
	FOURTH	\$150 FINE
	FIFTH	\$175 FINE
	SIXTH	\$200 FINE
	SEVENTH	\$225 FINE
	EIGHTH	\$250 FINE
	SASA	\$200 FINE
	PLAYOFFS	\$250 FINE
PLAYER ELIGIBILITY		
USING PLAYER NOT ON ROSTER		
	FIRST	\$100 FINE
	SECOND/EACH ADD.	\$100 FINE
USING PLAYER NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PLAYOFFS		
	FIRST	\$250 FINE
	SECOND/EACH ADD.	\$250 FINE
	FORFEIT OF GAME	
PLAYER SUSPENSIONS		
EJECTION - SINGLE PUNCH		
	FIRST	\$100 FINE
	2 GAME SUSPENSION	
EJECTION - SINGLE PUNCH		
	SECOND	\$250 FINE
	INDEFINITE SUSPENSION	
EJECTION - MULTIPLE PUNCHES		
	FIRST	\$250 FINE
	INDEFINITE SUSPENSION	
EJECTION - UNSPORTSMANLIKE/NON-VIOLENT		
	FIRST	\$100 FINE
	SECOND	\$250 FINE
	1 GAME SUSPENSION	
	THIRD	\$250 FINE
	INDEFINITE SUSPENSION	
FORFEITS		
REGULAR SEASON (HOME) WITH REPLACEMENT		
	SUN/MON	\$500 FINE
	TUES-FRI	\$7500 FINE
	GAME DAY	\$1000 FINE
REGULAR SEASON (AWAY) WITH REPLACEMENT		
	SUN/MON	\$750 FINE
	TUES-FRI	\$1000 FINE
	GAME DAY	\$1250 FINE
REGULAR SEASON (AWAY) WITHOUT REPLACEMENT		
	SUN/MON	\$1000 FINE
	TUES-FRI	\$1250 FINE
	GAME DAY	\$1500 FINE
SECOND FORFEIT OF ANY SEASON		
	FIRST	\$1500 FINE

	APPLY NEXT YEAR \$1000 BOND	
PLAYOFFS	SUN/MON	\$1500 FINE
	APPLY NEXT YEAR NO PLAYOFF NEXT YEAR.	
	TUES-GAME DAY	\$2000 FINE
	APPLY NEXT YEAR NO PLAYOFF NEXT YEAR.	
	\$1000 BOND	
GAME DAY		
INFRACTION - HOME GAME	FIRST	WARNING
	SECOND	\$150 FINE
	THIRD	\$175 FINE
	FOURTH	\$225 FINE
LOCKER ROOM		
FAILURE TO PROVIDE	SUN/MON	\$150 FINE
	TUES-GAME DAY	\$200 FINE
UNIFORM		
INFRACTION - GAME WEEK	FIRST	WARNING
	SECOND	\$100 FINE
	THIRD	\$125 FINE
	FOURTH	\$150 FINE
	FIFTH	\$175 FINE
	SIXTH	\$200 FINE
	SEVENTH	\$225 FINE
	EIGHTH	\$250 FINE
	SASA	\$250 FINE
	PLAYOFFS	\$250 FINE
STATS		
FALSIFYING	FIRST	WARNING
	REMOVE WEEK	
	SECOND	\$100 FINE
	REMOVE WEEKS	
	EMAIL TO OWNERS	
	THIRD	\$100 FINE
	REMOVE SEASON	
	NO POST-SEASON AWARDS	

**SECTION XVII - FORFEITS**

FORFEITS IN THE MWFL WILL BE AVOIDED, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE!

In the event a team is unable to host a game, attend a game as a visiting team or field what is considered a "full team" for a scheduled MWFL game they will be charged with a forfeit.

Any team that does not have at least FIFTEEN (15) healthy PLAYERS will be subject to any/all penalties that apply to a forfeit.

Every effort should be made to contact the opposing OWNER and the STAFF via written email and phone call, as soon as possible.

Unless there has been a catastrophic event, (ie: storm that closes roads, flood, power outage, etc.) a fine will be imposed to the forfeiting OWNER per the schedule below:

**FORFEITING HOME GAMES**

Game will result in a TWO (2) to ZERO (0) win for the visiting team.

No replacement team will be used.

First instance will use the following guidelines:

if the visiting team and the STAFF are notified on Sunday or Monday of the week in which game should be played.

Visiting team and STAFF must be notified via email and/or phone call.

FIVE HUNDRED (\$500) FINE

if the visiting team and the STAFF are notified Tuesday or Wednesday of the week in which game should be played.

Visiting team and STAFF must be notified via email and/or phone call.

SEVEN-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$750) FINE

if the visiting team and the STAFF are notified between Thursday and Saturday/day of the game.

Visiting team and STAFF must be notified via email and/or phone call.

ONE THOUSAND (\$1000) FINE

These amounts may change if the visiting team can prove a significantly greater loss than the fine amount.

An OWNER can send an email to the STAFF listing the losses and showing proof that these items cannot be cancelled and/or the money refunded or recouped.

If ruled a "hardship" by the STAFF, this can result in the fine being upgraded to a second instance and treated like FORFEITING AWAY GAMES.

All fines/penalties associated with that infraction will be assessed.

Any second instance will be treated as a first instance for an "away" game and those fines/penalties will apply.

No replacement team will be used.

FORFEITING AWAY GAMES

Game will result in a TWO (2) to ZERO (0) win for the home team.

First instance will use the following guidelines:

A replacement team can be used in the event the scheduled team cannot complete their responsibility.

Replacement team must :

Follow any/all uniform requirements.

Meet minimum roster requirements.

Play within the MWFL Rules.

Adhere to any/all By-Laws in regards to sportsmanship.

Any fines accrued by the replacement team will be forwarded to forfeiting OWNER.

Read and sign MWFL Constitution & By-Laws

Read and sign PLAYER Release Waiver

Fill form on HostedSports including but not limited to personal information.

Replacement team will make and pay for their own accommodations for the scheduled game.

We recommend that the replacement team OWNER spend no more than the amount they will be reimbursed, using the fines schedule listed below.

There will not be allocation from the MWFL for any additional money spent for this endeavor.

Money will be reimbursed to the replacement team when it is received by the MWFL Director of Finance within the normal timeline of the fine collection process.

if the visiting team and the STAFF are notified on Sunday or Monday of the week in which game should be played.

Visiting team and STAFF must be notified via email and/or phone call.

SEVEN-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$750) FINE

FIVE-HUNDRED (\$500) will be paid to the offended team and TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250) will be paid to replacement team

if the visiting team and the STAFF are notified Tuesday through Friday of the week in which game should be played.

Visiting team and STAFF must be notified via email and/or phone call.

ONE THOUSAND (\$1000) FINE

SEVEN-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$750) will be paid to the offended team and TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250) will be paid to replacement team

if the visiting team and the STAFF are notified on Saturday/day of the game.

Visiting team and STAFF must be notified via email and/or phone call.

TWELVE-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$1250) FINE

SEVEN-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$750) will be paid to the offended team and FIVE-HUNDRED (\$500) will be paid to the replacement team.

If no replacement team is used in the event the scheduled team cannot complete their responsibility.

if the visiting team and the STAFF are notified on Sunday or Monday of the week in which game should be played.

Visiting team and STAFF must be notified via email and/or phone call.

ONE THOUSAND (\$1000) FINE

if the visiting team and the STAFF are notified Tuesday through Friday of the week in which game should be played.

Visiting team and STAFF must be notified via email and/or phone call.

TWELVE-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$1250) FINE

if the visiting team and the STAFF are notified on Saturday/day of the game.

Visiting team and STAFF must be notified via email and/or phone call.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED (\$1500) FINE

Second instance will be treated as a first instance for a "playoff" game and those fines/penalties will apply.

No replacement team will be used.

#### FORFEITING PLAYOFF GAMES (HOME OR AWAY)

if the visiting team and the STAFF are notified on Sunday through Tuesday of the week in which game should be played.

Opponents and STAFF must be notified via email and/or phone call.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED (\$1500) FINE

There will not be a replacement game

All money will be recouped by the MWFL prior to the offended team being paid.

Standard fine payment process and timeline will apply.

If a fine is not paid prior to the end of current year, the team and OWNER will not be allowed to participate in the following season.

ONE (1) year suspension

If fine is paid prior to end of current season, the following stipulations will apply:

Offending team will be required to reapply for the following season and pay a ONE THOUSAND (\$1000) bond in addition to their TEAM FEES.

Team is not eligible for playoffs the following season, (should they be voted in)

if the visiting team and the STAFF are notified Wednesday through Saturday/day of game.

Opponents and STAFF must be notified via email and/or phone call.

TWO THOUSAND (\$2000) FINE

There will not be a replacement game

All money will be recouped by the MWFL prior to the offended team being paid.

Standard fine payment process and timeline will apply.

If a fine is not paid prior to the end of current year, the team and OWNER will not be allowed to participate in the following season.

ONE (1) year suspension

If fine is paid prior to end of current season, the following stipulations will apply:

Offending team will be required to reapply for the following season and pay a ONE THOUSAND (\$1000) bond in addition to their TEAM FEES.

Team is not eligible for playoffs the following season, (should they be voted in).

### **SECTION XVIII - GAME DAY EXPECTATIONS**

Home teams will be responsible for the scheduling and payment of their own home field, officials, scoreboard operator, chain crew, and any other expenses for any and all home games (i.e. Idaho Falls teams pay for their home field, scoreboard operator, chain crew, etc.; Uintah teams pay for their home field, scoreboard operator, chain crew, etc.; Great Falls teams pay for theirs, etc.).

Home teams must present a visible, electronic scoreboard for all MWFL regular seasons and play-off games.

In Idaho, Wyoming and Montana, home teams shall be responsible for scheduling officials for their own home games and these officials must be state certified officials (high school or college).

Home teams are responsible for notifying visiting teams of their field rules and enforcing them.

This includes no smoking, no alcohol, and any other rules.

Visiting teams must comply with these rules.

Failure to do so may result in fines as determined by the STAFF using the process listed in this document.

An official, professional or collegiate size game ball will be used by all teams for all league games. Teams will not be allowed to use any other ball.

Each team should furnish all of their own game balls and these should be in good condition (i.e. no badly worn balls).

The hosting/home teams are required to have:

: Five or more officials

For integrity purposes, the Director of Officiating will be vetting and approving all referees eligible to work during the MWFL season. Whenever possible, he will do his best to make sure there are no conflicts of interest in regard to the officiating crew(s) that work our league games.

This will ensure unbiased fairness and avoid potential favoritism among the league.

If OWNERS use unvetted/unapproved referees in a MWFL sanctioned game, they will be subject to the same infraction/fine as not having the correct number of officials.

A person that is EIGHTEEN (18) years of age or older and prepared to operate the scoreboard and game clock

Home teams must have a running clock available/visible on the field for all games.

An exception will be made and time will be allowed to be kept by an official on the field only if for some reason the field clock malfunctions or is not available for that field.

A chain crew comprised of three people that are TWELVE (12) years of age or older

Start of the game within THIRTY (30) minutes of scheduled/posted time

Pledge of Allegiance/National Anthem

The National Anthem or Pledge of Allegiance shall be performed before the start of every MWFL game.

Bathrooms for PLAYERS, spectators and fans

Home team must supply any/all spectators with a working restroom.

Game infractions are based on a per game basis and not per incident.

Fines associated with failure to provide mandated accommodations to a visiting team and game proceedings, (i.e. scoreboard, chains & chain crew, etc.) will follow the below scale:

1st game

WARNING

2nd game

ONE-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$150) FINE

3rd game

ONE-HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE (\$175) FINE

4th game

TWO-HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (\$225) FINE

#### **SECTION XIX - LOCKER ROOM/SHOWER FACILITIES**

Home teams must provide a changing area/locker room for any visiting team traveling over 150 miles.

Teams should do their best to accommodate the opportunity to shower/clean up prior to driving back to their home destination.

Process/Fines associated with failure to provide ANY changing area/locker room to a visiting team traveling more than 150 miles will be as follows:

ONE-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$150) FINE

Visiting team must be notified on Sunday or Monday of the week the game is to be played.

This will allow the visiting team to arrange their own accommodations

Visiting team will make and pay for their own accommodations for the scheduled game.

We recommend that the visiting team OWNER spend no more than the \$150 they will be reimbursed.

There will not be allocation from the MWFL for any additional money spent for this endeavor.

if the visiting team is notified after Monday:

ADDITIONAL FIFTY (\$50) FINE WILL BE ASSESSED

This will compensate for any/all additional charges incurred for late accommodations

#### **SECTION XX - UNIFORMS**

All teams should have matching jerseys with visible numbers.

It is the responsibility of the visiting team to have contrasting jerseys of the home team.

Should there be a dispute or debate in regards to acceptable uniforms, the STAFF will determine if the uniforms meet the necessary requirements.

PLAYERS will have matching uniforms from the knees up.

This includes football pants, football jerseys and football helmets.

Official football pants and pads are required.

Shorts/sweatpants will NOT be allowed.

Helmets and face masks will all be of the same color.

Minor uniform differences (i.e. faded pants, different colored shoes, etc.) will be acceptable provided these differences are closely related to the colors and uniform design of the team.

If unsure, it is recommended to have the STAFF verify these differences prior to any games to ascertain that these variations are legal.

Each OWNER will submit any/all uniform options prior to the first game of the season.

The Home team shall have the option of wearing dark or white/light jerseys.

If a visiting team has special needs (i.e. needs to wear white or dark), they shall contact the home team (and notify the STAFF) prior to Tuesday of the week the game is to be played.

If an agreement cannot be reached, the home team has the final decision.

In extreme situations (i.e. both teams wearing white or the same dark color), the STAFF can be contacted to prevent a problem.

A uniform infraction will be defined as two or more PLAYERS outside of the presented/qualifying uniform of the applicable team.

Fines associated with uniform infractions will follow the below scale:

1st game

WARNING

2nd game

ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE

3rd game

ONE-HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (\$125) FINE

4th game

ONE-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$150) FINE

5th game

ONE-HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE (\$175) FINE

6th game

TWO-HUNDRED (\$200) FINE

7th game

TWO-HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (\$225) FINE

8th game

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (250) FINE

SASA

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250) FINE

This does not include the use of any non-MWFL/replacement PLAYERS

The STAFF will be responsible for gathering all signatures from these PLAYERS.

Playoffs

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (250) FINE

## **SECTION XXI - POST-SEASON**

Any OWNER/team that owes a fine SEVEN (7) days prior to the first scheduled playoff game will not be eligible for the playoffs.

Should a fine be issued within FOURTEEN (14) days of the first scheduled playoff game, they will be eligible for that game.

In this instance, a fine must be paid prior to a second scheduled playoff game.

Should the fine not be paid, the team will not be eligible for the second playoff game.

Game will be considered a forfeit and any/all fines will be assessed based on that infraction.

Playoff seeding and division champions will be determined by the following:

### **LEGENDS DIVISION**

Teams will be seeded by least number of division losses.

In the event of a tie, the first tiebreaker used will be head to head competition.

If the tie is 3-way or more, the common record against the teams that are tied will be used to determine the highest seed, and then head to head competition.

If there is still a tie, the second tie-breaker will be the overall record against common opponents.

The third tie-breaker will be based on the team with the most number of road wins.

The fourth tie-breaker will be the least number of points allowed against common opponents.

### **LEADERS DIVISION**

Teams will be seeded according to the best overall division record (win-loss percentage)..

In the event of a tie, the first tiebreaker used will be head to head competition.

If the tie is 3-way or more, the common record against the teams that are tied will be used to determine the highest seed, and then head to head competition.

If there is still a tie, the second tie-breaker (if applicable) will be the team that has the highest cumulative record of opponents played during the season, forming a "strength of schedule" determination.

The team whose opponents yielded the highest winning percentage will win the tiebreaker.

The third tiebreaker will be the fewest points allowed during the regular season games, with the team allowing the fewest points getting the higher seed.

Teams which are seeded highest will be awarded home field advantage.

Divisional rankings are not a seeding tiebreaker.

The championship game will be played at the highest seed's home field or at a neutral site as determined by the STAFF.

In the event the MWFL does not designate and pay for a neutral site location before the start of the first regular season game, the championship game shall be played at the home field of the highest remaining seed.

The home team is responsible for payment of any other expense for their home playoff game(s) except for the officials.

If the highest seed for some reason cannot host the championship, the lower seed will gain the right to do so. Payment of officials for playoff and all-star games will come out of TEAM FEES and be paid from the MWFL general funds.

The league office will pay officials directly for playoff games.

A league championship trophy will be awarded to the MWFL champion, with a name plate citing the name of the team and the year they were champion put on the trophy at the end of each year.

Funding for the league championship trophies and all individual awards will be split equally by all teams and will be included in the TEAM FEES at the beginning of the season.

In addition, the MWFL shall present awards for the following:

Offensive PLAYER of the Year

Defensive PLAYER of the Year

League MVP of the league

Winners shall be determined through a process determined by the MWFL League office at the annual kick-off meeting each season.

## **SECTION XXII - STATS**

Collecting/Subsubmitting stats is no longer mandatory.

The STAFF will use stats when determining the roster for the All-Star game.

All OWNERS will be allowed to nominate PLAYERS for the All-Star Game and post-season awards.

There will be no fines for not submitting stats but the following timeline will be used for those that wish to enter stats for their team:

Stats/Rosters will be locked on HostedSports on Thursday at 10:00 pm.

Stats/Rosters will be unlocked on HostedSports on Sunday at 10:00 am.

Any stats not entered by Thursday at 10:00 pm will not be allowed for that week.

You will still be required to update/add your roster to HostedSports.

The STAFF expects all OWNERS to show integrity when adding stats to HostedSports.

This requires each OWNER to put forth the necessary effort to ensure that statistics are as accurate as possible

The surest way to ensure honest stats is for both teams to record stats for BOTH teams, and both teams know about it.

Game film the only proof that will be accepted to dispute stats

Being caught with inaccurate or dishonest statistics will discredit a team, and a program amongst the other OWNERS and teams.

If you suspect a team has seriously misreported their statistics, do the following

Contact the Director of Operations immediately.

State what you believe has been reported incorrectly and what evidence you have (i.e. alternate stats, and game film)

The STAFF will take it from there and report back on what he will need to see and cooperate with the investigation.

You will be required to send game film.

If the MWFL determines a "serious" statistical error has been caught. The following actions will be taken:

First instance

Statistics for that week will be immediately removed and PLAYERS will not receive stats for that week.

Team will be warned.

Second instance

Statistics for that week will be immediately removed and PLAYERS will not receive stats for that week.

ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE

League email will go out informing every team that the offending team was caught with their second violation.

Third instance

All team stats will be disregarded for the entire season and you will be locked out of the HostedSports portion for stats submission..

ONE-HUNDRED (\$100) FINE

At the discretion of the STAFF, PLAYERS could lose eligibility for the All-Star game and/or any post-season awards.

## **SECTION XXIII - OFFICIALS**

The MWFL Head of Officials and/or team managers will be responsible for making sure their officials have a copy of game rules so that they can be enforced for all MWFL games.

Coaches should have a printed copy of the MWFL rules at every game.

This will allow quick access to rules and avoid discrepancies.

For integrity purposes, the Director of Officiating will be vetting and approving all referees eligible to work during the MWFL season. Whenever possible, he will do his best to make sure there are no conflicts of interest in regard to the officiating crew(s) that work games.

This will ensure the same unbiased fairness and avoid potential favoritism among the league.

If OWNERS use unvetted/unapproved referees in a MWFL sanctioned game, they will be subject to the same infraction/fine as per not having the correct number of officials.

Teams wishing to play home games must have confirmed a home field location plus a list of officials they plan to use for their home games (or at least a contact name, mailing address and telephone number) and submitted to the league no later than SIXTY (60) days prior to scheduled season start date.

If a field is not confirmed by this time, all games for that team may be scheduled as "away" games.

Officials will be directed to penalize a PLAYER, coach, or team attendant for using vulgarity that can be heard by spectators as an unsportsmanlike penalty.

These infractions will be fined/punished using the rules listed in this document.

## **SECTION XXIV - SASA**

The Stars and Stripes Academy is intense training for officials focused specifically on "big time" college football. Small college and FCS level officials will prepare themselves to take the next step to D-1 football officiating. High school officials will get a taste of the college experience and improve at their current level while preparing to take the next step.

The Stars and Stripes Academy (SASA) provides the MWFL a unique opportunity to enjoy a couple days a year where all MWFL teams can showcase their talent in one place. They also provide a stipend that offsets some of the overhead cost of the league. This lowers the cost of the TEAM FEE as well as helps teams travel and/or save money on field allocation and other expenses associated with an OWNER's season budget.

All teams will prepare to participate in/travel to the SASA weekend.

All teams will receive monetary compensation based on their PLAYER participation, willingness to sacrifice a home game and mileage using the following scale:

### **ROSTER**

Any money used to pay for replacement PLAYERS may be deducted from this amount.

Less than 11 PLAYERS

NO COMPENSATION

FORFEIT

All fines/penalties in regards to a FORFEIT may be assessed.

This will be determined by the STAFF based on the circumstances.

Unless collected from the offending team, there will be no financial compensation to the affected team.

11-15 PLAYERS

ONE-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$100)

16-25 PLAYERS

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$200)

26+ PLAYERS

THREE-HUNDRED (\$250)

### **MILEAGE**

Less than 50 miles

ONE-HUNDRED (\$0)

51-150 miles

ONE-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$100)

151-250 miles

TWO-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$200)

251+ miles

THREE-HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250)

### **GIVING UP A HOME GAME**

TWO-HUNDRED (\$250)

### **PARTICIPATION STIPEND/LOAN**

All teams attending the SASA Event will be compensated for their effort.

Should a team arrive at the SASA Event with any infractions to the above listed requirements, they can receive a compensatory payment/loan from the MWFL to help absorb the expenses of the event.

Repayment of this compensatory payment must be recouped by the MWFL prior to the end of the regular season.



Default of this payment will result in disqualification from the playoffs for that particular season.

Any team that does not bring at least ELEVEN (11) PLAYERS may be subject to any/all penalties that apply to a forfeit.

This will be determined by the STAFF based on the circumstances.

Unless collected from the offending team, there will be no financial compensation to the affected team.

Alternate/replacement PLAYERS from other teams can be used to eliminate the fines/penalties associated with a forfeit.

A replacement team/PLAYER will constitute any team/PLAYER not on a current MWFL roster or having gone through the MWFL screening and application process.

Replacement PLAYERS/teams must :

Follow any/all uniform requirements.

Meet minimum roster requirements.

Play within the MWFL Rules.

Adhere to any/all By-Laws in regards to sportsmanship.

Any fines accrued by the replacement team will be forwarded to forfeiting OWNER.

Read and sign MWFL Constitution & By-Laws

Read and sign PLAYER Release Waiver

Fill form on HostedSports including but not limited to personal information.

The team with the acceptable number of PLAYERS will be awarded the win in any/all cases of a forfeit.

### **SECTION XXV - ALL-STAR SELECTION/CRITERIA/PROCESS**

MWFL All-Star Game Selection and/or voting will be determined by the STAFF.

It will be up to the League Office to Coordinate the game details and make the necessary arrangements..

Numbers and positions can be adjusted based on the number of teams in the league for the season.

THIRTY (30) PLAYERS per team will be selected as follows

TWO (2) Quarterbacks

TWO (2) Running Backs

ONE (1) Tight End

SIX (6) Offensive Line

FOUR (4) Wide Receivers

THREE (3) Defensive Ends

TWO (2) Defensive Tackles

FOUR (4) Linebackers

THREE (3) Cornerbacks

TWO (2) Safeties

ONE (1) Place Kicker

Teams divided/selections will be as follows:

STAFF members will have a live draft and choose PLAYERS for the All-Star Game.

A coin toss will be used to determine who gets the first pick in the draft.

STAFF members will alternate picks per round and can only choose the same position as the previous pick.

EXAMPLE: Member A chooses first and chooses a Quarterback. Member B will choose second and third and must choose a Quarterback but can then choose a position of their choice. If Member B chooses a Running Back then Member A will choose fourth and fifth but their fourth pick must be a Running Back.

Offensive linemen will be added from each team so all teams are represented.

The first 4 PLAYERS chosen from each team will be team captains.