

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

**WILLIAMSON MIDDLE
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

Final Revision Effective May 5th, 2008

SECTION I: **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Williamson Middle Athletic Association (WMAA) is to foster the educational, social, emotional, and physical development of middle school students in the spirit of sportsmanship through interscholastic athletic competition.

SECTION II: **ORGANIZATION STATEMENT**

The WMAA operates under the authority of Williamson County Board of Education and the Franklin Special School District. All policy and rules of the WCBE and FSSD are in effect.

SECTION III: **MEMBERSHIP AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

All middle schools in Williamson County School District and Franklin Special School District shall be members of the WMAA. There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of president, vice president, and secretary, and these positions shall be elected annually. The Board shall also consist of one representative from each member school. A representative from each school may be a principal, assistant principal or athletic director. Each member of the board of directors shall be from a different school. The Middle School Director and the District Athletic Director shall be ex-officio members of the board.

SECTION IV: **MEETINGS**

Two meetings of the membership shall be held each year for conducting business and scheduling athletic events. Each member school is permitted one vote in all business under consideration. The president may call additional meetings if necessary. Each March the board will establish the sports calendar for the following school year which will specify the practice start dates and season length for all sports.

SECTION V: **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

The constitution and by-laws may be amended by 2/3 majority of the membership present. Amendments must be submitted in writing during the previous membership meeting. The vote on the proposed amendment shall be taken at the following membership meeting.

SECTION VI: OFFICERS

- A. Duties of the President
 - 1. Presides at all meetings
 - 2. Calls special meetings as needed
 - 3. Appoints committees as needed

- B. Vice President
 - 1. Conducts duties in the absence of the president
 - 2. Coordinates tournament schedules and sites.

- C. Secretary
 - 1. Records the minutes of all meetings and send copies to each member school.
 - 2. Notifies each member school of the time, date, place and agenda, including amendments and special considerations of all meetings.
 - 3. Communicates decisions of the WMAA Board to the membership.

- D. Members-At-Large
 - Middle school representatives from remaining member schools—vote on matters that come before the Board.

SECTION VII: PLAYING FACILITIES

The host school is responsible for the playing facilities. In the event that the facility is not suitable for play, the host school must call to cancel a game before 2:00 P.M. on the day of game. If not, the event may be forfeited to the visitors. The host administrator shall make the decision regarding the condition of the facility. Emergency situations are not covered by the above rule. The visiting coach may appeal the decision to the Board. The host school is responsible for clean up at any borrowed site.

SECTION VIII: MEMBERSHIP RULES

Rule 1 Membership

- 1.1 Membership shall include all public middle schools in Williamson County who field interscholastic athletic teams.
- 1.2 If a member school fields a team in a sport sanctioned by the WMAA, they must participate in that sport.

Rule 2 Participation

- 2.1 Students in public middle schools may participate as a member of a team in the WMAA. (Defined as 6th, 7th and 8th grades).
- 2.2 Students must be regularly enrolled in a middle school, and carry a full load of subjects as set forth by school policy.

- 2.3 Current Varsity starters and players who play more than 50% of the time are not eligible to participate in JV or B team contests. For Basketball games a player may only participate in six (6) quarters per day. Entering or participating in any part of a quarter counts toward the individual's six quarters. If a school has 8th grade students who participate in JV or B team contests, the athletic director should notify the opposing school's athletic director to disclose this information during the school day of the athletic event...
- 2.4 5th Grade students are not eligible to tryout for middle school teams. (5th grade students become 6th grade students the first day of summer following their 5th grade year).
- 2.5 The Tennessee State Board of Education rules will be enforced regarding students obtaining athletic physicals before being allowed to participate.**
- 2.6 Only proper uniforms which meet the National Federation of High School Sports guidelines shall be worn in all sports. There shall be no jewelry worn while participating in practice and/or contests.**

Rule 3 Academic

- 3.1 Student athletes must have met the minimum standards set forth by the individual school systems.
- 3.2 For non-academic retention in the seventh and eighth grades a student will be ineligible in all sports for one school year of participation.
- 3.3 IEP team and 504 plans will be followed in the case of students with disabilities.

Rule 4 Age

- 4.1 A student who becomes 15 years of age on or before August 1st is not eligible to participate in a sport sanctioned by the WMAA.

Rule 5 Coaches

- 5.1 All coaches must be approved by the principal of each school.
- 5.2 All head coaches must have a valid CPR/First Aid card prior to conducting a practice session with students.
- 5.3 A coach who is ejected from an event/contest shall be suspended from coaching for the next game.

Rule 6 Scheduling Format

Division 1		Division 2
Brentwood	↔	Freedom
Grassland	↔	Heritage
Sunset	↔	Page
Woodland		

The schools will play each other twice in their division and the schools in the other division once. This will give the schools in Division 1 nine conference games while the schools in Division 2 will have eight games. In order to get the schools in Division 2 the nine games needed for tournament seeding, each school in Division 2 will play the corresponding school in Division 1 an additional game. For example Brentwood and Freedom will play two games. This additional game will count for seeding purposes for Division 2 schools but not count for seeding purposes for the teams in Division 1. Of course Woodland and any school can play the schools in Division 2 twice and vice versa but only the designated games shall count toward tournament seeding.

The above scheduling format will be used for volleyball, soccer, basketball, baseball and softball

SECTION IX: SPORTS

- A. Any violations of the WMAA constitution and by-laws can cause possible forfeiture of a particular game or all games in a particular sport. Forfeiture will be determined by the Board.
- B. Games and events shall be conducted under the rules of the National Federation of State High Schools, except as clarified in the specific rules of each sport.
- C. Coaches and principals should establish a maximum amount of practice time to reflect the nature of middle school sports competition.
- D. WMAA rules and regulations will govern the following interscholastic athletic sports:

Baseball, Basketball (boys and girls), Cross Country (boys and girls), Football, Girls Softball, Girls Volleyball, Golf (boys and girls), Soccer (boys and girls), Tennis (boys and girls), Track and Field (boys and girls), and Wrestling.

- E. Practices start dates and tryouts for all sports teams are established by the annual sports calendar.
- Football and Volleyball will be able to use ten (10) of the remaining fifteen (15) school days after the conclusion of the spring sports season for out of season practice.
 - Baseball and Softball will be allowed to have tryouts during the last week of October if they choose.
 - When seasons overlap, the sport which started first will have priority for facilities.
 - During the summer months coaches can have open gyms and/or conduct conditioning sessions. Fall sports shall not use this time to start practice earlier than the designated start date. There will be a two week dead period. For 2008 the dead period will be from June 22nd, 2008 through July 5th, 2008.
 - Once practice begins for fall sports until the end of the school year, there will be no open gyms and/or out of season conditioning allowed.
- F. Tie breaker rule for championships and tournament seeding.
1. Head to head competition.
 2. Results against the highest placed team, the next highest place team and so forth through the entire division if necessary.
 3. Results against common opponent outside of the WMAA.
 4. If still tied, the teams will share the championship or a coin toss will determine the seeding for tournament.
- G. Tournament Procedure
1. All plans shall be submitted to the vice president and approved by the WMAA Board.
 2. Standard accepted brackets shall be used.
 3. All expenses shall come from the gate receipts (if there is a gate).
 4. In the absence of a gate, expenses will come from team entry fees.
 5. The host school will keep a record of all expenses and revenue from each WMAA tournament. Each school will be responsible to pay a set amount depending on the number of games their team played in the tournament.
- H. Either 1st and 2nd place plaques or medals will be given depending on individual sport.
- I. Schools will compete in two divisions in the following sports: football, girl's volleyball, soccer, basketball, baseball, and girl's softball. All other sports will have one division.
1. Division "AA" consists of the following schools: Brentwood, Freedom,

Grassland, Heritage, Page, Sunset, and Woodland.

2. Division "A" consists of the following schools: Fairview, Hillsboro, and Poplar Grove.

Rule 1 **Basketball (Boys and Girls)**

- 1.1 The season may begin as set by the annual sports calendar and end with a tournament in February except as noted in 1.4.2.
 - 1.4.1 "AA" division practice starts as set by the annual sports calendar. .
 - 1.4.2 "A" division practice starts as set by the annual sports calendar.
- 1.2 No team shall schedule more than 20 total games.
- 1.3 Each game shall consist of four, six minute quarters.
- 1.4 Each team may participate in no more than three (3) tournaments per season which includes the season ending WMAA tournament. Tournaments count as two games.
- 1.5 There will be a mercy rule established for basketball. If a team is up by 25 or more points during the fourth quarter, the clock will run continuous except for free throws, time outs, officials' time outs and injury situations.

Rule 2 **Baseball**

- 2.1 The baseball season shall begin after the conclusion of the basketball season as set by the annual sports calendar(Practice times and games shall not be scheduled prior to the conclusion of the basketball season).
- 2.2 Each team may participate in no more than 16 games per season including two (2) tournaments per season.
- 2.3 Two umpires shall be assigned to each game, and the cost of umpire fees shall be the responsibility of the host team.
- 2.4 Games shall be 7 innings in length with a 2-hour time limit.
- 2.5 The home team shall supply 3 new game balls.
- 2.6 A winner is declared if either team leads by 15 runs after the 3rd inning or 10 runs after the 5th inning.
- 2.7 A pitcher may pitch no more than twelve innings in any one calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) and no more than seven innings in any one day. After pitching four or more innings in any one game, the player must have at least two days' rest before he can pitch again (For example, if a pitcher pitches four or more innings on Monday, that pitcher would not be able to pitch again until Thursday, etc. If a pitcher pitches to any batter, the pitcher is charged with an inning.) If removed as a pitcher, the player may play any other position.

Rule 3 **Cross Country (Boys and Girls)**

- 3.1 Cross Country practice starts as set by the annual sports calendar. Meets may be held starting the third week in August.
- 3.2 Students must compete in at least 50% of the scheduled meets (unless circumstances such as injury or illness) in order to qualify for the championship run held at the end of the season. Illness or injury must be certified by a medical

- doctor and submitted to the WMAA board.
- 3.3 On Meet Day the girls run first then the boys. There will be place cards given to each runner as they pass the finish line. Scores are determined by adding the top five runners' places. The team with the lowest number is the winner of the meet. If there is a tie between two teams then the sixth place runner is added and the winner is determined from those scores.
 - 3.4 The team that is hosting the meet is responsible for marking the course as accurately as possible. The host team is responsible for a timer and scorekeeper. Each team is given a team score sheet that needs to be completed by each coach.
 - 3.5 At the beginning of each meet the host team will determine the order of start lanes (usually a draw for position).
 - 3.6 Championship Run medals will be awarded to the top ten runners in a divisional race.
 - 3.7 During meets runners will be allowed to wear cross-country cleats.

Rule 4 Football

- 4.1 Football practice starts as set by the annual sports calendar.- The first game may be played during the third week in August. There may be a league jamboree played on the second Thursday in August.
- 4.2 WMAA members must play all other divisional league teams once, and a team may play no more than 8 games per year. A ninth game may be played with permission from the board. Requests must be made prior to the start of the season.
- 4.2 The WMAA champion will be the team with the best record.
- 4.3 The championship trophy will rotate among the schools that win the WMAA championship.
- 4.4 Football helmets must be worn on the practice field for all contact and non-contact drills.
- 4.5 There will be a mercy rule established for football. Beginning in the second half, if point differential is 30 points or more, continuous clock except on scores, time-outs, officials' time outs, and between quarters. If point differential goes below 30 points, you go back to regular timing rule(s).

Rule 5 Golf (Boys and Girls)

- 5.1 Matches may be held starting with the third week in August, and the season shall conclude with a nine (9)-hole tournament in October.
- 5.2 Boys five (5) man team... top four scores count (medal play).
Girls three (3) girl team... top two scores count (medal play).
- 5.3 No coaching from parents or coach while match is in progress.
- 5.4 Each player must carry his own bag. Pull carts are allowed (no riding carts).
- 5.5 USGA rules will apply (winter rules).

Rule 6 Soccer (Boys and Girls)

- 6.1 Soccer practice starts as set by the annual sports calendar. (Soccer practice shall not start until after the conclusion of fall sports (FB, VB, XC)).
- 6.2 Each team may participate in no more than 13 games per season including two (2) tournaments per season.
- 6.3 .
- 6.4 Two officials shall be used for each game, and the cost of the officials shall be the responsibility of the host team.
- 6.5 The game shall consist of two 35 minute halves.

Rule 7 **Girls Softball**

- 7.1 The softball season shall begin after the conclusion of the basketball season as set by the annual sports calendar (practice times and games shall not be scheduled prior to the conclusion of the basketball season) and end in May.
- 7.2 Each team may participate in no more than 16 games per season including two (2) tournaments per season.
- 7.3 The WMAA teams will play each other once in their division during the regular season.
- 7.4 At least one umpire shall be assigned to each game, and the cost of the umpire shall be the responsibility of the host team.
- 7.5 Softball will follow ASA Rules.
- 7.6 The home team shall supply new game balls.

Rule 8 **Tennis**

- 8.1 Matches may begin after the conclusion of the basketball season as set by the annual sports calendar. (Practice times and games shall not be scheduled prior to the conclusion of the basketball season) and end in May.
- 8.2 Each team (and individual player) can participate in no more than 15 matches per season including postseason tournaments.
- 8.3 USTA rules shall apply for WMAA matches.
- 8.4 If there is a tie for the team championship during regular season play (i.e., two schools having the same number of points for matches won) the champion will be the school with the greatest number of individual WMAA wins: singles and doubles.

Rule 9 **Track and Field**

- 9.1 The track and field season may begin after the conclusion of the basketball season as set by the annual sports calendar (practice times and games shall not be scheduled prior to the conclusion of the basketball season) and end in May.
- 9.2 Each team may schedule no more than 6 dates.
- 9.3 The championship run will be held in May.
- 9.4 Distance runners (1600 meters) and 800 meter runners may compete in only two (2) other running events.

- 9.5 Field events open the meet with the following events.
- A. Pole Vault
 - B. First Round--Boys long jump, boys shot
Girls high jump, girls disc
 - C. Second Round--Boys high jump, boys disc
Girls long jump, girls shot
- 9.6 Running events include:
- A. Low hurdles
 - B. 4x100
 - C. 400
 - D. 4x800
 - E. 100
 - F. 800
 - G. 4x200
 - H. 1600
 - I. 200
 - J. 4x400
- 9.7 When heats are held the best times will dictate which athletes advance.
- 9.8 To be eligible to participate in the championship meet an athlete must compete in two (2) meets.
- 9.9 End of season (WMAA) meet will be rotated among Division "AA" member schools. If a school does not have a track facility, they should secure the use of another facility, but the school shall be responsible for hosting the meet.
- | | | | |
|------|--------------|------|--------------|
| 2006 | Freedom MS | 2009 | Page MS |
| 2007 | Grassland MS | 2010 | Woodland MS |
| 2008 | Heritage MS | 2011 | Brentwood MS |
- 9.10 Medals should be awarded to the 1st and 2nd place relay teams and 1st, 2nd, 3rd place for individual contests.

Rule 10 Girls Volleyball

- 10.1 Volleyball practice starts as set by the annual sports calendar Matches may be held starting with the third week in August and will end with a tournament in October.
- 10.2 Each team may participate in no more than 20 matches per season including tournaments (tournaments count as 2 matches).

Rule 11 Wrestling

- 11.1 Wrestling practice starts as set by the annual sports calendar.. (Wrestling practice shall not start until after the conclusion of fall sports (FB, VB, XC).
- 11.2 Each school may wrestle 20 matches including tournaments. Tournaments and tri-matches count as 2 matches.*
- 11.3 There shall be 14 weight divisions: 75, 82, 90, 98.106, 114, 122, 130, 138, 148, 158, 175, 190, heavyweight (limited to 225 pounds).
- 11.4 Each wrestler must certify at least three (3) times at the weight he will wrestle for the post-season tournament. Seeding for the post-season tournament will be based on the number of wins in the same weight class as wrestling in tournament.

- 11.5 If an injury prevents a wrestler's chance to certify, a doctor's medical report certified by the principal must be sent to all WMAA schools prior to matches and tournament play.
- 11.6 Scales must be a digital balance system and set prior to matches and tournament play.
- 11.7 The post-season tournament shall be double elimination or wrestle back.
- 11.8 Weigh-in will be one (1) time before the tournament begins unless the tournament is extended beyond two (2) days.
- 11.9 There will be no allowance for weight divisions. One (1) pound may be added after the third week of the season.

SECTION X: APPEALS

- A. A member school may appeal the administration or interpretation of these rules to the WMAA Board of Directors, who must address the appeal within 10 days. Decisions of the WMAA board can be appealed to the WCS Director of Middle Schools whose decision shall be final.
- B. Appeals process: Any appeal request shall be submitted in writing from the principal of the school to the WMAA Board of Directors. The WMAA has 10 days to render a decision. A decision of the WMAA Board of Directors may be appealed to the WCS Middle School Director within 5 days of the WMAA Board decision. The Director of Middle Schools will have 5 days to render a decision, and that decision shall be final.

Revised August 5, 2005 by the voting members of the organization.

*Change made at Spring 2006 WMAA meeting.