



## **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

### **WILLIAMSON MIDDLE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

Final Revision Effective February, 2018

#### **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 can 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.

#### **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. In case of a tie vote among member schools the District Athletic Director will cast the deciding vote. The president may call additional meetings if necessary. By the end of each school year 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.**

**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 and homeschooled may participate as a member of a team in the WMAA. (Defined as 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades) Each student has only 3 years of eligibility to play sports in the WMAA (including homeschool) which will begin at the start of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade year regardless of placement. (Placement is defined as Public, Private, or Homeschool). A mid-season change of placement will result in the athlete being ineligible until following school year. (e.g. Moving from enrolled to homeschool) All Homeschool Letter of Intents must be submitted to the Central Offices of WCS or FSSD no later than August 1 to be eligible for the upcoming season.
- 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 No 8<sup>th</sup> graders can be used for JV games this rule applies for all sports.
- 2.4 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students are not eligible to try out for middle school teams. (5<sup>th</sup> grade students become 6<sup>th</sup> grade students the first day of summer following their 5<sup>th</sup> grade year).
- 2.5 The Tennessee State Board of Education rules will be enforced regarding students obtaining athletic physicals before being allowed to participate. **Physicals last for one calendar year and must be updated annually by the date specified by the host school.**
- 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.
- 2.7 Any student athlete ejected from a sanctioned contest for unsportsmanlike reasons will be suspended 1 game. The final decision of unsportsmanlike will be made by the officials in their final game report. A school/coach can appeal the ejection through the local officials association. If the appeal is rejected through the officials association the player will serve the suspension.

## **Rule 3      Academic**

- 3.1 Student athletes must have met the minimum standards set forth by the individual school systems.
- 3.2 For retention in the sixth, 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 and further actions/consequences upon review may be taken by District Athletic Director. All ejections must be reported to the District Athletic Director within 24 hours by the Head Coach, and/or Athletic Director.
- 5.4 Coaches who violate out of season rule (i.e. Coaching a team in a contest when season is not in play with any players from your school) will be suspended for the following:  
     Violation 1: 2 game suspension  
     Violation 2: 5 game suspension  
     Violation 3: Complete season  
 Suspensions will be held during WMAA conference season and will be continual, and consecutive and could go into following season.
- 5.5 All coaches will be responsible for maintaining their rosters, eligibility, rules, and forms within the FinalForms system.

#### **Rule 6      Scheduling Format**

The divisions of the WMAA are defined as:

North: Brentwood, Grassland, Mill Creek, Sunset, Woodland

South: Freedom, Heritage, Hillsboro, Page, Spring Station

All schools will play each other twice in volleyball and basketball.

**The WCS Athletic Director will set the master schedule for football, volleyball, soccer, basketball, baseball, softball, and track.**

**Tennis: Woodland**

**Golf: Spencer Creek-Grassland**

**Cross Country: Page**

**Wrestling: FREEDOM**

**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 (10 hours per week-contests count for 2hrs) 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, Softball, 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. This will become a part of By-Laws year to year. See page 11.
- When seasons overlap, the sport which started first will have priority for facilities.
- 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 with the winner of the toss being the higher seed.
- 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.
  4. Expenses will come from team entry fees.
  5. The host school will keep a record of all expenses from each WMAA tournament. The host school will send a record of all expenses to participating schools and invoice each school an equal amount.
- H. Either 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place plaques or medals will be given depending on individual sport.

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

- 1.1 The season may begin as set by the annual sports calendar and end with a tournament.
- 1.2 No team shall schedule more than 22 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 does not include 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.
- 1.6 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.

WMAA Tournament Seedings:

### **Play in games:**

- A. N4 vs S5,
- B. S4 vs N5

### **Second Round**

Winner of A. plays S1, and winner of B. plays N1  
 N2 vs S3,  
 S2 vs N3

## **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 18 games per season including three (3) tournaments per season. Tournaments count as two games.
- 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 3<sup>rd</sup> inning or 10 runs after the 5<sup>th</sup> 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 (1.5 miles). 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 WMAA game may be played during the third week in August.
- 4.2 WMAA members must play all other divisional league teams once, and a team may play no more than 9 games per year. A bowl game may be played with permission from the County AD. 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, a continuous clock will begin 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).
- 4.6 In the event of a tie for the WMAA champion; the 3 teams will rotate the trophy.

### **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.
- 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.
- 6.2 Each team may participate in no more than 14 games per season including two (2) tournaments per season. (WMAA tournament does not count)
- 6.3 Two or Three officials shall be used for each game, and the cost of the officials shall be the responsibility of the host team. Number of officials shall be determined by the host team.
- 6.4 The game shall consist of three 30 minute halves. A player may not participate in more than 3 halves per day. Entering or participating in a half counts towards the player's three (3) halves. \* Exception- if a keeper plays 2 halves in goal, they may play the other 2 in the field.
- 6.5 The game shall consist of two (2) 30 minute halves.
- 6.6 **Scoring- POINT SYSTEM**  
Divisional winners will be determined by the following point system:
  - a. Win - 3 points
  - b. Tie - 1 points
  - c. Loss - 0 points**Tiebreakers**  
In the event that teams are tied on the basis of points, the following tiebreakers will be considered in order until the tie is broken:
  - a) Winner of head-to-head competition. (This criterion is not used if more than two teams are tied.)
  - b) Most wins.
  - c) Team with greatest net goal difference (NGD), which is computed as 'goals for' minus 'goals against. (Maximum of 4 goals per game may be used)
  - d) Team with least goals against
  - e) Team with the most goals
  - f) Kicks from penalty spot per FIFA Laws of the Game.

**(voted on in Fall 2017 meeting)**

### **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.
- 7.2 Each team may participate in no more than 18 games per season including three



- (3) tournaments per season. (WMAA tournament does not count)
- 7.3 The WMAA teams will play each other once 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 (3) new game balls.
- 7.7 Host school will communicate with umpire in the WMAA Championship that there is NO time limit and will be decided by complete game (all innings) or run rule.
- 7.8 .47 core 375 compressions-free substitution will be allowed.
- 7.9 Substitutions will be allowed when a player is subbed in for another player they become attached/linked to that player. Unlimited re-entries. They must stay in the same batting order. **(voted on in Fall 2017 AD Meeting)**

## **Rule 8      Tennis**

- 8.1 Practice and matches set by the annual sports calendar.
- 8.2 Each team (and individual player) can participate in no more than 15 matches per season excluding the WMAA tournament.
- 8.3 USTA rules shall apply for WMAA matches, but coaches are allow to coach their Students while playing as long as they do not interrupt the flow of play.
- 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 A maximum of 5 events per athlete. Distance runners 1600 meters, 800 meters, and 4 X 800 meter runners may compete in only two (2) other running events.
- 9.5 Field events open the meet with the following order of events.
- A. Pole Vault
  - B. First Round--Boys long jump, boys shot (25ft WMAA meet)  
Girl's high jump (4'2" WMAA meet), girl's disc (50ft WMAA meet)
  - C. Second Round--Boys high jump(4'8" WMAA meet), boys disc(70ft WMAA meet) Girls long jump, girls shot (20ft WMAA meet)

9.6 Running events include in order of running:

A.	Low hurdles	F.	4X200
B.	4x100	G.	400
C.	4X800	H.	800
D.	100	I.	200
E.	1600	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 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.

9.10 Medals should be awarded to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place relay teams and 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place for individual contests.

### **Rule 10      Girls Volleyball**

10.1 Volleyball practice and matches starts as set by the annual sports calendar.

10.2 Each team may participate in no more than 24 matches per season including 3 tournaments (tournaments count as 2 matches).

### **Rule 11      Wrestling**

11.1 Wrestling practice starts as set by the annual sports calendar. Can start at the conclusion of the Volleyball season. JV football players not participating in Varsity play can start wrestling at the conclusion of their season.

11.2 Each school may wrestle 22 matches including tournaments. The dual championship and individual county championships do not count in these dates. In-season tournaments and tri-matches count as 2 matches.\*

11.3 Wrestling weight divisions: 74, 80, 88, 96, 104, 110, 116, 122, 132, 142, 152, 165, 185, 215, 250 **Voted on by wrestling coaches and AD's 9/17**

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 4th week of the season if the season last past Thanksgiving.
- 11.10 Seeding Criteria: WMAA Tournament 1. Head to Head (last winning wrestler will be higher seed) 2. Common Opponent 3. Coaches' vote

### **SECTION X: APPEALS and Misc.**

- 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 Athletic Director 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 Athletic Director within 5 days of the WMAA Board decision. The WCS Athletic Director will have 5 days to render a decision, and that decision shall be final.
- c. If a Board member's school is appealing or is a part of the appeal process; then that member will not be allowed to vote on that appeal. The WCS Athletic Director will assign an athletic director from a member school that has no benefit from the appeal to be the third vote in the appeal process.
- D. All other eligibility requirements, processes and anything not mentioned in this document will fall under TSSAA/TMSSA guidelines.

Revised 9/13/17 by the voting members of the WMAA organization

\*Changes go into effect September, 2017

**2017-18 WMAA HOST TEAMS:****TENNIS: WOODLAND****GOLF: HERITAGE****CROSS COUNTRY WMAA MEDAL RUN NORTH: SUNSET****CROSS COUNTRY WMAA MEDAL RUN SOUTH: HILLSBORO****CROSS COUNTRY DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP: SUNSET****VOLLEYBALL: GRASSLAND****BOYS SOCCER: BRENTWOOD****GIRLS SOCCER: FREEDOM****WRESTLING: MILL CREEK****BASKETBALL: SPRING STATION****JV BASKETBALL: SPRING STATION****6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BASKETBALL: BRENTWOOD****BASEBALL: BRENTWOOD****SOFTBALL: WOODLAND****TRACK: PAGE**

New for 2017-18

Scheduling meetings for ALL coaches will take place at location of tournament host either pre/prior to season to schedule games for the following season. Tournament host will be responsible for communication to all coaches about dates and times.

For 2018 Football:

2 Divisions

North

Brentwood  
 Grassland  
 Woodland  
 Sunset  
 Mill Creek

South

Heritage  
 Spring Station  
 Page  
 Freedom  
 Thompson Station

- Each team will play everyone in their division once
- Each team will play 3 teams from other division
- Final standings at the end will be seeded for Bowl Games
- Each Bowl Game will have a name and trophy
- The North teams will host on even years, and South on odd
- The seedings will be:
  - N1 vs S1
  - N2 vs S2
  - N3 vs S3
  - N4 vs S4
  - N5 vs S5

## 2017- 18 WMAA Calendar

The WMAA does not have restrictions for summer starting May 08, 2017 after 3pm with one exception;(FOOTBALL head gear ONLY) there will be a dead period, between Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup> through Sunday July 16<sup>th</sup> (3 weeks); during this three week period there should not be any athletic activity at the schools or between the coaches and players. Before and after the dead period; Coaches can have open facilities, conduct conditioning sessions, practice, and/or tryouts. Starting July 9<sup>th</sup> Football will be allowed to use head gear and shoulder pads until fall practice starts.

Once practice begins for fall sports July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 there will be NO RESTRICTIONS FOR STUDENTS NOT PLAYING FALL SPORTS. Coaches will be able to have off season conditioning; practice, and weight training; open gyms are also allowed as long as NO PLAYERS WHO ARE IN SEASON PRACTICE. AT THE START OF EACH SEASON NO RESTRICTIONS FOR STUDENTS AND COACHES NOT IN SEASON: STUDENTS WHO QUIT A SPORT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PRACTICE UNTIL THAT SPORT SEASON IS OVER!!!

The WMAA Sports' calendar for the 2017-2018 school years is as follows; Volleyball, Football, Golf, Cross Country, and Tennis will begin practice on Monday July 17<sup>th</sup>; WMAA contest will begin the week of August 7<sup>th</sup>. ALL FALL SPORTS END October 6<sup>th</sup>. Wrestling/Soccer WMAA games begin the week of October 3<sup>rd</sup> and all tournaments must be completed by Saturday DEC 1<sup>st</sup>. Basketball WMAA games begin week of Dec 11<sup>th</sup> and end the week of Feb 19<sup>th</sup>. Baseball, Softball, and Track WMAA games begin the week of March 13<sup>th</sup> and end by the week of May 17<sup>th</sup>. The Baseball and Softball tournaments will be held after the TCAP testing window closes (April 16<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>). Practices can be held during the testing window.

**NEW TRYOUT/OPEN FACILITY RULE (+3 Rule): Teams can have tryouts and open facilities 3 Fridays prior to the season start date. This is for NON-SEASONAL athletes only.**

The following is the WMAA Sports Calendar which is recommended for the 2017-2018 school year:

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Season Duration</b>	<b>WMAA First Regular Season Contest</b>
<b>Fall sports</b>	<b>07/17 – 10/03</b>	<b>Week of August 7th</b>
<b>Wrestling/Soccer</b>	<b>10/04- 11/17 (Soccer)</b>	<b>Week of Oct. 16th</b>
	<b>10/04 – 01/07 (wrestling)</b>	<b>Week of Oct. 23rd</b>
<b>Basketball</b>	<b>11/27 – 2/22</b>	<b>Week of December 11<sup>th</sup></b>

