

# Mid-Michigan Wrestling Association By-Laws

## Article I NAME

The Name of this organization shall be the Mid-Michigan Wrestling Association (MMWA) and will here after be referred to as the Association.

## Article II

### PURPOSE

- A. To provide competitive wrestling among wrestlers ages 4 through 14.
  1. Age shall be determined as of **December 31<sup>st</sup> prior to the start** of current wrestling year, i.e., December 31, 2005 for the 2005-06 season (1/06 – 3/06).
  2. Proof of age must be available at all tournaments if requested by the tournament director or one of his/her representatives.
  3. Copies of birth certificates and passports are the only acceptable proof of age.
  4. **All weigh-ins will be Home weigh-ins. Regional and Finals will be onsite weigh-in.**
  5. To establish a wrestler's minimum weight class, they must weigh-in, enter, and wrestle that weight in their own age group **in two (2) complete MMWA tournaments** prior to regionals. A complete tournament consists of two round elimination.
  6. **Wrestlers who participate in the Alpha weigh-in for their high school wrestling program are not eligible for M.M.W.A competition.**
- B. To organize wrestling clubs in Mid-Michigan, so as to provide for consistency in wrestling.

## Article III

### MEMBERSHIP

- A. In order for a club to be eligible to participate in regional and league finals, the club must be a **Member in good standing** since becoming a member.

Refer to section F in this Article

- B. No new clubs will be accepted **after January 31<sup>st</sup>**.
- C. Membership in **Good Standing** will consist of those existing clubs and individuals who have paid their dues **before the first tournament in January each year**. A fine of \$100 will be applied to those clubs that have not paid outstanding bills (i.e. unpaid tournament fees, any unpaid fees to member clubs, returned checks for insufficient funds) in full by the first meeting of the following year.

New Clubs will have until the **January 31<sup>st</sup> to pay their dues**. New club **dues must be paid by January 31<sup>st</sup> or before entering the first tournament**, whichever comes first.

- D. Membership dues for existing Clubs will be **\$75.00 per year**.
- E. **Non Member wrestlers with USA memberships may be allowed to participate in MMWA tournaments providing there are openings. They will not be allowed to participate in MMWA Regionals and Finals.**
- F. **Dues for Equipment:** Each new member Club or Individual Club shall pay an initial fee of **\$100.00** for use in purchase and maintenance of **Equipment**. This fee shall be an initial fee only and not annual. Only those clubs that have paid their dues shall be permitted to use the Equipment (**excludes**

**computers and printers**) for their tournaments. Exceptions to this may be made by the President or Vice-President, if in their opinion; it is in the best interest of the Association as a whole. In any circumstance, a Club having paid this **equipment** fee shall have priority over a club who has not.

- G.** All Clubs that drop out of the association and later re-join must pay the difference in the equipment fees, if there has been an increase from the time they left to the time they re-joined.
- H. All Club Representatives must sign in at each Membership meeting, Limit one representative per club.** Each club shall have one vote in all matters brought before the membership. If votes are taken at a regularly scheduled meeting or a special meeting, only those clubs present shall be represented in the vote.

In the event of a tie, the president shall cast the tie breaking vote, regardless of his/her club affiliation. Fifty-one percent (51%) or more of the members **present and** voting shall constitute a majority and shall be sufficient to pass or defeat any matter.

#### Article IV

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD AND DUTIES**

**A.** The Executive Board of this Association will consist of the following:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasury
- Head Pairer
- Head Referee
- Webmaster
- Committee Chairperson as elected by the Club representatives

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Executive Board to aid in preparing the agenda for meetings.

The Executive Board shall be responsible for overseeing the proper operation of Association sanctioned tournaments, in accordance with the MMWA By-Laws and Rulebook. At least one member of the Executive Board shall try to be present at all sanctioned tournaments. No member of the Executive Board shall have the authority to change any aspect of an invitational tournament; however, he/she may suggest changes and point out to the tournament director any possible conflicts with the Association rules. Any significant discrepancies in the individual tournament operations should be noted by the Executive Board members and brought out at the next meeting.

The Executive Board shall, on a case by case basis, have the authority to make exceptions to rules and By-Laws when a membership meeting is not feasible. This authority is good except where specifically prohibited. Exception shall not be construed as long term changes to rules or By-Laws.

1. **PRESIDENT**

The president of the Association shall preside at all Association and officers' meetings. He/She shall, with the treasurer sign all vouchers authorized by the officers. He/She shall be permitted to attend all committee meetings, although they will only vote on those committees where he/she is an appointed or elected member. He/She shall approve the agenda for all meetings.

2. **VICE-PRESIDENT**

- a. The vice-president shall act in the place of the president during His/Her absence. The vice-president shall assume the duties of the president in the event the president can no longer serve.
- b. The vice-president shall be responsible for maintaining the schedule of Association tournaments and issuing sanctions.
- c. The vice-president shall be responsible for issuing the scales and insuring their proper operation.

d. The vice-president shall perform other duties as specified by the president.

3. **SECRETARY**

- a. The secretary shall be responsible for taking and maintaining the minutes of Association meetings.
- b. The secretary shall be responsible for notifying all Club representatives of Association meetings.
- c. The secretary shall answer all correspondence directed to him/her, and shall present at the regular meetings such correspondence vital to the Association.
- d. The secretary shall prepare the agenda of all meetings for the president's approval.

4. **TREASURER**

- a. The treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining the Association treasury.
- b. The treasurer shall be responsible for giving a treasurer's report at each membership meeting and at any other time requested by the president.

5. **HEAD PAIRER**

- a. The Head Pairer shall be responsible for overseeing all functions of each Pairing Room
- b. The Head Pairer shall be present in each pairing room unless a designee is appointed.
- c. The Head Pairer will be responsible for scheduling all certified pairers for each pairing room at each tournament.

6. **HEAD REFEREE**

- a. The Head Referee shall be responsible for overseeing all referees.
- b. The Head Referee shall be present at all tournaments unless a designee is appointed.
- c. The Head Referee will be responsible for scheduling all trained referees for each tournament.

7. **WEBMASTER**

- a. The Webmaster will maintain the MMWA Website.

The Head Pairer and Head Referee will report their fund balance to the membership and the Treasurer. All funds, receipts, and record of these accounts must be turned over to the Association Treasurer within 30 days of the final MMWA sanctioned tournament each wrestling season.

Article V

**TERM OF OFFICERS**

- A. **President:** The president shall serve in his/her office for a two (2) year term. There are no term limits, therefore, he/she may serve any number of consecutive terms.
- B. **Vice-President:** The vice-president shall serve in office for the same durations as the president, however, the vice-president's term will alternate from that of the president.
- C. **Secretary:** The secretary shall serve in office for the same duration as the president and vice-president, however, the expiration of the secretary's term will concur with that of the president's.
- D. **Treasurer:** The treasurer shall serve in office for the same duration as the president, vice-president, and secretary, however, the expiration of the treasurer's term will concur with that of the vice-president.
- E. **Head Pairer:** The head pairer shall serve in office for the same duration as the president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer; however the expiration of the head pairer's term will concur with that of the president's and secretary's.
- F. **Head Referee:** The head referee shall serve in office for the same duration as the president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, however, the expiration of the head referee's term will concur with that of the vice-president's and treasurer's.
- G. **Webmaster:** The webmaster shall serve in office for the same duration as the president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, however, the expiration of the webmaster's term will concur with that of the vice-president's and treasurer's.

Article VI

**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

- A. Nominations for officers shall be made **via e-mail to the MMWA Secretary by the last Monday in January**. Nominees need not be present to be nominated, however, if not present, verbal acceptance of the nomination must be provided at or prior to this meeting. **Nominations can be made at the meeting before voting as long as the nominee is present.**
- B. Election of officers will be on the final regularly scheduled meeting of the year. Newly elected officers shall assume office the day following the League Finals.
- C. **Vacancies in Office:** In case of a vacancy in an office, the president may appoint someone to fill the position until the next membership meeting, at which time an election shall be held to fill the vacancy.
- D. **Removal of Officer:** Any officer elected by the membership may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership in attendance at any meeting, whenever, in its judgment, the best interests of the MMWA would be served, provided that a statement of reason/reasons shall be communicated to the officer proposed for removal thirty (30) days before any action is taken, and the officer given, at the removal meeting, the opportunity to be heard and the matter considered by the membership prior to his/her removal.

Article VII

**MEETINGS**

- A. The Secretary shall prepare the agenda for each meeting, and as nearly as possible, include it in the announcement. An adjustment to the scheduled meeting dates may need to be made depending on the winter or holiday breaks for building availability.

**Beginning with the 2015-16 season the schedule will be as follows:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in September
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in October
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in December
- Date to be determined for February (give final regional numbers, give out regional assignment and Clubs pay for regionals)
- the Monday after the Regionals tournaments. Election of Officers, voting on next year Regional Sites and drawing for tournaments not grandfathered in will take place at this meeting. Pay for Finals and purchase prepaid Final admission tickets.

**Those who wish to have a voice in the operation of the MMWA must attend Meetings.**

- B. **Length of Meetings:** There shall be a two hour limit on each meeting. Normally, meetings shall be scheduled to start at 7:00 pm. The president may call the meeting to order anytime after the schedule meeting time when he/she thinks there are enough representatives present, however, he/she may not delay it more the 30 minutes.
- C. **Conduct of Meetings:** Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts' Rules of Order. Normal order of business shall be;
  1. Opening by President
  2. Approval of Agenda
  3. Remarks by the Vice-President (if any)
  4. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes
  5. Committee Reports
  6. Agenda Items
  7. Close Meeting
- D. Roll Call attendance will be taken at all membership meetings.

In the event of a roll call vote, only **signed in** member per club shall be eligible to vote, regardless of the total members present from that club.

Article VIII

**CONDUCT OF TOURNAMENTS**

A. Length of Season

1. The tournament season for this Association shall be scheduled to run for 10 weeks including regionals and league finals, beginning in January.
2. Clubs may sanction tournaments at any time between these dates, except for the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> weekends of the schedule (Saturday & Sunday). These are reserved for regionals and league final tournaments.
3. Doubling up of tournaments will be allowed provided:  
Allow doubling up on tournaments before all dates are taken if one tournament on the same dates is a “Novice” only tournaments and the other tournament does not utilize “novice” age & weight divisions at all.

Allow 3 tournaments per weekend:

1. Novice only (either day)
2. Saturday tournament (where novice is not wrestled separately from regular divisions).
3. Sunday tournament (where novice is not wrestled separately from regular tournament).

Example: Sat. – Holly (no novice divisions)  
Sun – Swartz Creek (novice only)  
Sun – Montrose (no novice division)

If no novice only tournament is held on the same weekend, the Host club can add novice divisions at their discretion.

4. Clubs, who have consistently held tournaments on a given weekend for 5 years retroactive to the 1996 season shall be granted priority status for the next tournament year, provided said club is a member in good standing. If said club does not confirm their date by January 30<sup>th</sup> of the previous year that date is then open for any club to request. If a club with an established date misses one year for whatever reason, then that club can reclaim that date the following year. If a club misses two years in a row then their date is now an open tournament date. To establish a new priority date, the same club must hold that date for three (3) consecutive years. **The exception would be made for those hosting regional several years in a row.**

B. There will be ***NO club jumping*** allowed.

1. Wrestlers will not be allowed to switch Clubs after January 31<sup>st</sup> of each season. If a wrestler changes clubs once during the season they cannot change again without approval of the MMWA Board for just cause.

C. **Regionals and League Finals:**

1. The Regional meets for this Association shall be held the 9<sup>th</sup> weekend of the schedule. The league finals shall be held the 10<sup>th</sup> weekend of the schedule.
2. Tentative Regional Numbers will be turned into a Board Member By February 1<sup>st</sup> for the purpose of assigning Regionals to the Clubs. **Final numbers** must be given to a Board member by the **2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in February** and **must be paid by check (or make arrangement) to the hosting club by the following Friday.**
3. Clubs will be assigned their regional on **the second Monday of February.** A list of which clubs belong to which regional shall be compiled prior to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in February by the Executive Board. **All considerations for regional dates (Saturday or Sunday) must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board by the February 1<sup>st</sup>, with legitimate reasoning, location request will be honored.**
4. **The number, the Board, has on the Second Monday in February is the number the Club must pay for. A Club may bring more wrestlers, but if fewer wrestlers compete the Club**

**will not get a refund. The leeway for bringing more wrestlers before a penalty is applied is:**

- 1. Call in 1-10 you may bring 3 more without penalty**
- 2. Call in 11-20 you may bring 4 more without penalty**
- 3. Call in 21 and over you may bring 5 more without penalty**

**Penalty is double the entry fee, per wrestler over the allowed leeway.**

5. To be eligible for participation in Regional and League Final Tournaments, participants must have wrestled as a member of an Association Member Club **in at least two (2) complete invitational tournaments during the season.** In the event a wrestler has wrestled for more than one Association Member Club during the season, that wrestler may participate in the Regional and League Final Tournaments with the member club he/she been with in the most invitational tournaments of the season. If the wrestler has participated equally with more than one club, the most recent tournament will be the determining factor.
6. Bids for three (3) Regional sites will be taken **by the second Monday of February** for the next season. **Voting for regional sites will take place at Last Meeting of the Year.** This bid must be confirmed **by the meeting in October of the next season.** A building usage form must be presented in **October** as confirmation. An attempt shall be made to select one site in each of the geographical regions most heavily represented in the membership.
7. When three (3) regional sites are selected, the top five (5) wrestlers will be taken from each chart. However, if numbers do not warrant 3 regionals we will drop back down to two(2) Regional Sites and the previous chart for qualifiers will be used (Pairing Rules in the Rulebook). If a fourth regional site is added, the top 4 wrestlers will be taken from each chart.
8. Bids and voting for the League Finals site shall be accepted and determined during the same period of time as the regional sites.
9. League Finals will be sponsored by the Association.

Note: Those who are voted to host regional and league final tournaments will forfeit their regular date during the upcoming season only, providing they have one scheduled. These regular tournament dates will be double booked so as not to have a vacant date. If the request for regional or league final host sites cannot be confirmed the original club will maintain their original tournament date. If no one opts for the date(s) for a regular/novice tournament a club will be allowed to host two tournaments during the season.

- D. If a wrestler participates in an MMWA Regional and qualifies for MMWA State Finals, and does not attend the finals, but attends another tournament on the same weekend as the MMWA Finals, the wrestler's club will be assessed a fine of \$50 per wrestle. The wrestler will not be allowed to participate in the following years' MMWA regionals or league finals

E. Invitational Tournaments

1. All Clubs hosting invitational tournaments sanctioned by this Association shall abide by Association Rules and By-Laws. Penalties for infractions may be considered.
2. Wrestling rules and rules for conducting tournaments shall be reviewed annually by the respective committees. Recommendations for changes, if any, shall be made by these committees to the membership. The membership shall adopt these rules annually. In order for any of these rules to be changed during the season they must be reviewed and recommendations made to the membership by the respective committee. The committee may or may not require a petition from members to review rules. If the committee agrees to

review a rule during the wrestling season, it must make its recommendation to the membership at the next regular membership meeting.

- 3. All clubs shall pay for the number of wrestlers registered and weighed-in. All pre-registration will be submitted online via track wrestling by 5:00 p.m. each Thursday for the upcoming weekend's tournaments. Statisticians will have until 11:00p.m. the Thursday before the tournament to enter wrestlers.**
- 4. All weigh-ins will be done as "Home Weigh-ins". All Home/honor weigh-ins will be enter into Track Wrestling by 11:00pm Thursday before the weekend tournament. There will be no checks or challenges. Weigh-ins for Regional and Finals will be done onsite.**
5. The registration fee per wrestler per tournament will be **\$11.00**, with Regionals. The Non-Qualifiers will be **\$12.00** each. The League Finals will be \$15.00.

**\*All Regional qualifiers will be paid for by their club regardless of whether they are attending League Finals or not.**

Door admissions will be \$4.00 per adult, \$1.00 per student/child (5-18 years), \$9.00 full family, Preschoolers Free (0-5). Full family is defined as father, mother and immediate children 18 years or younger.

**Finals: \$5.00 per adult, \$3.00 per student (K through 12<sup>th</sup>)**

**All coaches will be required to pay admission the same as any general tournament attendee.**

#### F. Operation of Tournaments

1. Qualified league referees will be used at each sanctioned tournament, with arrangements being made through the Head Referee. **\$3.50** of each wrestler's entry fee and any penalties charged will be paid to the referee's fund to pay for these referees at the rate per the chart below. Rate is per referee per tournament.

A referee must be at least 15 years of age as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, have attended a referee clinic, worked two tournaments as a trainee and has the approval of the Head Referee. A referee cannot be a MMWA participant.

**0-4 years - \$10/hour with a minimum of \$60 for a full day**  
**5+ years - \$12/hour with a minimum of \$75 for a full day**

**Work a minimum of 5 tournaments per season constitutes a year of service**

#### **Mat set up Recommendations**

0 – 275 wrestlers	6 mats	8 referees including Head Referee
275 – 350 wrestlers	8 mats	10 referees including Head Referee
350 – 400 wrestlers	10 mats	12 referees including Head Referee
400 + wrestlers	12 mats	14 referees including Head Referee

2. Each sanctioned tournament will have a minimum number of qualified paid pairers in each Pairing Room (includes 1 head pairer).

**\$2.50** of each wrestler's entry fee and any penalties charged will be paid to the Pairing Fund to pay for these Pairers at the rate per the chart below . Or the same as a referee per tournament.

**The Head Pairer will be paid \$150.00 per week additional to set up the weekend tournaments.**

**0-4 years - \$10/hour with a minimum of \$60 for a full day**

**5+ years - \$12/hour with a minimum of \$75 for a full day**

Working a minimum of 5 tournaments per season constitutes as a year of service.

**Numbers of pairers to be adjusted as needed.**

**Depending on the number of participants and whether the host club is using electronic bouts.**

A certified pairer must be at least 15 years of age by January 1<sup>st</sup>, have attended the pairing class, worked two tournaments as a trainee, and passed the pairing test. **A certified pairer cannot be a MMWA participant.**

- 3. All Pre-registration and weigh-in information shall be posted on the Hosting Club's flyer/invitation.**

**All Pre-registration and weigh-in information must be posted via Track Wrestling by 11:00p.m.on Thursday of each week for the upcoming weekend tournaments. Weights must be entered by 11:00p.m.**

**The MMWA Association will pay the Track Wrestling Fee for each tournament.**

Article IX

**BRAGIL AWARD**

This is a sportsmanship award that is given annually by the association. Voting for this award will be done by the Head Referee, all trained referees, the Head Pairer, and all certified pairers.

Revised 10/16