

SOUTHWEST MIDGET FOOTBALL LEAGUE
BY-LAWS
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ARTICLE I - PURPOSE & MISSION STATEMENT

- A. THE SOUTHWEST MIDGET YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE IS ORGANIZED TO INSPIRE OUR YOUTH TO LEARN AND PRACTICE THE IDEALS OF SPORTSMANSHIP AND PHYSICAL FITNESS, TO TEACH THE YOUTH, BY A COMMON INTEREST, FOOTBALL AND CHEERLEADING, SPORTSMANSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, AND FAIR PLAY, THROUGH FOOTBALL COMPETITION AS AN EXTENSION OF THE CLASSROOM AND TO BEHAVE IN AN EXEMPLARY MANNER, AT ALL TIMES.
- B. TO ACQUAINT OUR PLAYERS WITH THE FUNDAMENTALS OF FOOTBALL, SUCH AS BLOCKING, TACKLING, RUNNING, KICKING, PASSING, STAYING IN SHAPE PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY, AND MORALLY.
- C. TO TEACH THE COORDINATION AND COOPERATION REQUIRED TO PLAY THE GAME OF FOOTBALL OR CHEERLEADING.
- D. TO INSPIRE GOOD HABITS SUCH AS FELLOWSHIP AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS, TEACHERS, COACHES, AND OTHER ADULTS.
- E. TO TEACH THE PROPER RESPECT FOR ANY EQUIPMENT FURNISHED TO THE PLAYERS AND THE RESPECT FOR OTHER PROPERTIES, SUCH AS CLOTHING, LOCKER ROOMS, AUTOMOBILES, AND TO KEEP THE PLAYING FIELDS CLEAR OF DEBRIS.
- F. TO PROMOTE SAFETY FIRST FOOTBALL BY HAVING ALL PLAYERS IN COMPLETE EQUIPMENT AND STRICT CONTROLS OVER AGES AND WEIGHTS, AND THE TYPE OF EQUIPMENT. THE SWMFL WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH USA FOOTBALL AND I.H.S.A. EQUIPMENT STANDARDS.
- G. THE SWMFL IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION FORMED SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING YOUTH FOOTBALL AND CHEERLEADING. EACH ORGANIZATION WILL SUPPORTED THROUGH SPONSORSHIPS, DONATIONS, FUNDRAISING, AND OTHER MEANS OF SOLICITATING FOR FUNDS TO OPERATE. ASSESSMENTS AND SWMFL FEES WILL BE MADE PRIOR AND DURING EACH SEASON TO ADMINISTER THE SWMFL.

ARTICLE II - GOVERNING BODY

- A. THE BOD SHALL CONSIST OF ONE MEMBER FROM EACH SWMFL FRANCHISE KNOWN AS ATHLETIC DIRECTORS OR DESIGNEE APPROVED BY EACH FRANCHISE AND APPROVED AND RECOGNIZED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.
- B. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD SHALL CONSIST OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE VICE PRESIDENT. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD WILL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE DECISIONS THAT NEED IMMEDIATE ATTENTION OR WILL HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE OPERATION OF THE SWMFL, OR UNTIL WHICH TIME THE BOD CAN BE NOTIFIED. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE TO UPHOLD BYLAWS, EXPECTATIONS AND BEHAVIOR BY THE BOD OF THE SWMFL. POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OR DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS FOR FAILING TO FULFILL THEIR ABOVE STATED DUTIES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOD OF THE SWMFL.
- C. THE PRESIDENT IS ELECTED FROM THE BOD ON THE ODD YEAR, EVERY OTHER YEAR, AT THE END OF THE CURRENT YEAR'S SEASON DETERMINED BY THE BOD. THE PRESIDENT SHALL CONTROL THE FUNCTIONS OF THE SWMFL. HE/SHE SHALL PRESIDE OVER SWMFL MEETINGS, PROVIDE SWMFL SCHEDULES, AND CARRY OUT THE SWMFL RULES AND BY-LAWS AS AUTHORIZED BY THE SWMFL BOD. THE PRESIDENT MAY APPOINT A SERGEANT OF ARMS TO HELP UPHOLD NY-LAWS.
- D. THE VICE-PRESIDENT/SECRETARY IS ELECTED FROM THE BOD ON THE EVEN YEAR, EVERY OTHER YEAR AT THE END OF THE CURRENT YEAR'S SEASON DETERMINED BY THE BOD. THE VICE PRESIDENT SHALL ASSIST THE PRESIDENT IN ALL CAPACITIES AND ASSUME THE PRESIDENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN HIS ABSENCE. HE/SHE SHALL KEEP MINUTES OF ALL MEETINGS, RECORD ANY CHANGES IN RULES OR AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OR BY-LAWS. KEEP RECORDS OF ALL SWMFL EXPENSES.

- E. REGULAR SWMFL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD EACH MONTH AS AGREED UPON BY THE BOD. *SEE VIOLATIONS 1 AND 2*
- F. EACH SWMFL FRANCHISE MUST BE REPRESENTED AT EVERY SWMFL MEETING OR SPECIALLY CALLED MEETINGS. FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS A 24-HOUR NOTICE WILL BE GIVEN OR AS AGREED UPON BY THE BOD. EACH SWMFL FRANCHISE MUST HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT, IF DIFFERENT THAN THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MUST BE NOTIFIED. VIOLATION WILL RESULT IN VOTING PRIVILEGES LOST FOR THE FOLLOWING SEASON IF TWO MEETINGS ARE MISSED, UP TO THE DISCRETION OF THE BOD.
- G. EACH SWMFL FRANCHISE WILL HAVE ONE VOTE IN ALL SWMFL MATTERS AND BE IN GOOD FINANCIAL STANDING WITHIN THE SWMFL AS AGREED UPON BY THE BOD
- H. AT LEAST SEVENTY-FIVE (75%) OF THE SWMFL FRANCHISE'S MUST BE PRESENT FOR ANY VOTING TO TAKE PLACE.
- I. ALL RULES OR BY-LAW CHANGES WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE FLOOR AND DISCUSSED. IF A NEW RULE OR BY-LAW MOTION CARRIES ON THE FIRST VOTE, A SECOND VOTE AT THE FOLLOWING MEETING IS REQUIRED ON THE SAME RULE OR BY LAW MOTION AS WRITTEN, FOR FINAL ADOPTION. ALL NEW RULES AND CHANGES TO BY-LAWS MUST HAVE AT LEAST 75% OF THE VOTES TO BE CONSIDERED AND AT LEAST SEVENTY-FIVE (75%) OF THE VOTES REQUIRED FOR FINAL ADOPTION. ANY NEW RULES OR BY-LAW CHANGES MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO THE FIRST AUGUST SWMFL MEETING AND HOLD FOR THE CURRENT SEASON OR AS AGREED UPON BY THE BOD. ANY ADOPTED BY LAW OR RULES CHANGE CAN BE APPEALED ONLY ONE TIME. A WRITTEN APPEAL WITHIN 48 HRS OF ADOPTED CHANGE MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD TO DETERMINE IF THE APPEAL IS VALID AND WARRANTS BEING BROUGHT TO THE FULL BOD TO HEAR.
- J. ANY OTHER SWMFL BUSINESS CAN BE PASSED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE, SUCH AS BUT NOT LIMITED TO; SWMFL MINUTES, OCCASIONAL MEETING CHANGES, SWMFL FEES, REFEREE MATTERS, DISCIPLINARY ACTION ON FRANCHISES, ATHLETIC DIRECTORS, TEAM REPRESENTATIVES, COACHES, PLAYERS, OR PARENTS.
- K. ANY OTHER SWMFL BUSINESS CAN BE PASSED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE, SUCH AS SWMFL MINUTES, OCCASIONAL MEETING CHANGES, SWMFL FEES, REFEREE MATTERS, DISCIPLINARY ACTION
- L. ANY NEW RULE OR BY-LAW CHANGE BROUGHT UP FOR CONSIDERATION OR FAILS FINAL ADOPTION, CAN NOT BE BROUGHT UP FOR ANOTHER CHANGE OR VOTE UNTIL THE FOLLOWING SEASON, IT IS THE SUBJECT OF THE CHANGE THAT IS CONSIDERED, REWORDING OR REPHRASING WILL NOT BE ALLOWED. THE AGE & WEIGHT MATRIX CAN ONLY BE VOTED TO CHANGE ONCE EVERY 3 YEARS WITH A YEAR CHANGE STARTING 2024. *SEE VIOLATION 3*
- M. ANY FINES AND/OR FINAL DECISIONS AGAINST A SWMFL FRANCHISE MUST BE IN COMPLIANCE WITHIN 3 DAYS (72 HRS) OR AS AGREED UPON BY THE BOD.
- N. ANY AND ALL SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS CREATED BY LEAGUE ADMINISTRATORS, COACHES, PLAYERS, PARENTS, AND/OR SUPPORTERS SHOULD ALWAYS CLEARLY BE POSITIVE SUPPORTIVE OF ANY AND ALL PROGRAMS IN THE LEAGUE, OR LEAGUE ITSELF. *SEE VIOLATION 3*

VIOLATIONS OF ARTICLE 11

1. *EACH SWMFL FRANCHISE MUST BE REPRESENTED AT EVERY SWMFL MEETING OR SPECIALLY CALLED MEETINGS. FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS A 24-HOUR NOTICE WILL BE GIVEN OR AS AGREED BY THE BOD. EACH SWMFL FRANCHISE MUST HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT, IF DIFFERENT THAN TO THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MUST BE NOTIFIED. VIOLATION WILL RESULT IN VOTING PRIVILEGES LOST FOR THE FOLLOWING SEASON IF TWO MEETINGS ARE MISSED, UP TO THE DISCRETION OF THE BOD.*

2. *ANY FINES AND/OR FINAL DECISIONS AGAINST A SWMFL FRANCHISE MUST BE IN COMPLIANCE WITHIN 3 DAYS (72 HRS) OR AS AGREED UPON BY THE BOD.*
3. *ANY SOCIAL MEDIA INTERACTIONS DEEMED DETRIMENTAL TO THE SWMFL, SWMFL FRANCHISES AND ANY OR ALL MEMBERS WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE BOD, WHO WILL THEN DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE CONSEQUENCES AND ACTIONS*

ARTICLE III - FRANCHISES AND INSURANCE

- A. THE SWMFL PRESIDENT WILL KEEP AN OFFICIAL SWMFL MAP, ORGANIZATIONAL BOUNDARIES WILL BE FILED WITH THE SWMFL PRESIDENT.
- B. EACH SWMFL FRANCHISE WILL BE ASSESSED EQUALLY, LEAGUE FEES REQUIRED TO OPERATE THE SWMFL PAYABLE, NO LATER THAN, THE JULY MEETING. THESE FEES COVER BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO LIABILITY AND HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE FOR EACH FRANCHISE, LEAGUE TROPHIES, AND REFEREE FEES DURING THE PLAYOFFS *SEE VIOLATION 1*
- C. ANY NEW FRANCHISE REQUEST WILL NEED A MAJORITY VOTE TO JOIN THE SWMFL FOR A ONE YEAR PROBATIONARY PERIOD. THIS PROBATIONARY PERIOD MEANS THE NEW FRANCHISE WILL NOT HAVE VOTING RIGHTS AND WILL BE EXPECTING TO LEARN THE BY LAWS AND ALL PROCESSES WITHIN THE SWMFL. THE SWMFL WILL PROTECT THE BOUNDARIES OF EXISTING FRANCHISES, IF A NEW FRANCHISE BOUNDARIES CONFLICT WITH AN EXISTING SWMFL FRANCHISE BOUNDARY, THE EXISTING SWMFL FRANCHISE HAS THE RIGHT TO VETO A NEW FRANCHISE. A NEW SWMFL FRANCHISE WILL NEED A MAJORITY VOTE AT THE END OF THAT FIRST SEASON TO REMAIN IN THE SWMFL AS A FULL CHARTERED FRANCHISE WITH VOTING RIGHTS. SUBJECT TO THE BOD, NO NEW APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE MAY SWMFL MEETING UNLESS AGREED UPON BY THE BOD
- D. ALL FRANCHISES MUST FIELD A WIDGET, PEE-WEE, LIGHTWEIGHT, AND VARSITY TEAM UNLESS AGREED UPON BY BOD. *SEE VIOLATION 2.*
- E. FOR ALL SWMFL SANCTIONED EVENTS, SWMFL WILL FURNISH LIABILITY AND HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE FOR ALL FRANCHISES. ADDITIONAL FEE'S MAY APPLY TO A FRANCHISE FOR ADDITIONAL NON-AUTHORIZED ALSO NEEDED THE FORM EVENTS SUBJECT TO THE BOD.
- F. ALL FRANCHISES MUST CARRY LIABILITY AND HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE FOR EACH FRANCHISE EQUIVALENT OR EXCEEDING SWMFL COVERAGE AND MUST INCLUDE THE SWMFL AND ALL FRANCHISE LOCATIONS AS AN ADDITIONAL INSURED IF NOT CHOOSING TO UTILIZE THE SWMFL PROVIDED INSURANCE

VIOLATIONS OF ARTICLE III

1. *ANY SWMFL FRANCHISE THAT HAS NOT PAID THE LEAGUE FEES BY THE JULY MEETING WILL BE FINED 10% OF SAID FEES*
2. *ANY FRANCHISE UNABLE TO FIELD ANY REQUIRED TEAM LEVEL WILL BE SUBJECT TO REVIEW FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION*

ARTICLE IV - REGISTRATION

- A. ALL PLAYERS MUST ATTEND ALL WEIGH-INS WITH THEIR GAME JERSEY ON, WITH PROPER NUMBER, AND A COPY OF THEIR BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR EQUIVALENT, WHICH WILL BE KEPT IN EACH FRANCHISES BINDER REFERENCED IN ARTICLE IV REGISTRATION D. NO PLAYER WILL BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE WEIGH-IN ROOM ONCE ENTERED. PLAYERS THAT DO NOT CERTIFY AT THE FIRST WEIGH IN ARE INELIGIBLE FOR THE ENTIRE SEASON. *SEE VIOLATION 1*

- B. PLAYERS ARE ALLOWED TO WEIGH-IN (24) TWENTY-FOUR HRS BEFORE OR AFTER THEIR DESIGNATED DAY AND TIME DETERMINED BY THE BOD AND STILL BE ELIGIBLE TO PLAY IN FIRST GAME OF THE SEASON.
- C. AT SECOND AND THIRD WEIGH-IN, IF A PLAYER DOESN'T MAKE WEIGHT ON CURRENT ROSTERED TEAM AND DIVISION, PLAYERS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE, CAN WEIGH-IN TO CERTIFY ON THE NEXT APPROPRIATE DIVISION AND IS ELIGIBLE TO PLAY IMMEDIATELY. THIS RULE EXCLUDES ANY SLIDE DOWN PLAYERS.
- D. OFFICIAL SWMFL REGISTRATION IS A ROSTER FURNISHED TO ALL TEAMS IN THE SWMFL. THIS INCLUDES THE PARTICIPANTS' NAME, ADDRESS, APPROXIMATE WEIGHT, GAME JERSEY NUMBER, AND COACHES FOR EACH TEAM. FOURTEEN (14) COPIES OF ROSTERS MUST BE PRESENTED TO SWMFL DIRECTORS AT TIME OF FIRST WEIGH-IN. EACH FRANCHISE WILL KEEP A BOARD OF DIRECTOR APPROVED BINDER INCLUDING THEIR TEAMS ROSTERS AND BIRTH CERTIFICATES. BINDER MUST BE IN PROPER ORDER AS APPROVED BY THE BOD AND PRESENT AND AVAILABLE AT EVERY GAME. A MASTER COPY INCLUDING ALL THE ABOVE PLUS PLAYERS PARENT/GUARDIAN PHONE NUMBER IS FURNISHED TO THE LEAGUE PRESIDENT AND KEPT ON FILE. ANY MODIFICATIONS DUE TO EMERGENCY OR EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES TO OFFICIAL COACHES ON TEAM ROSTER, MUST BE BOARD APPROVED. *SEE VIOLATION 2*
- E. WEIGH-INS WILL BE HELD PRIOR TO THE FIRST SWMFL GAME, SECOND WEIGH-IN WILL BE HELD BEFORE THE FIFTH GAME OF THE SWMFL SEASON, THIRD WEIGH-IN WILL TAKE PLACE THE WEEK OFF THE START OF THE PLAYOFFS. DESIGNATED TIMES AND LOCATIONS DETERMINED BY THE BOD. A MINIMUM OF TWO (2) SWMFL DIRECTORS WILL BE AT EACH SITE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE BOD.
- F. ALL FRANCHISES MUST HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE AT ASSIGNED WEIGH-IN SITE OR BE CHARGED WITH MISSING A BOARD MEETING SUBJECT TO THE BOD.
- G. NO PLAYER SHALL BE REGISTERED ON A FRANCHISE ROSTER WITHIN THE SWMFL IF HE/SHE IS IN OR ENTERING HIGH SCHOOL REGARDLESS OF AGE. NO PLAYER MAY TURN 15 BEFORE DECEMBER 1ST. A FRANCHISE WITH ANY HIGH SCHOOL PLAYERS WILL BE IMMEDIATELY EXPELLED FROM THE SWMFL SUBJECT TO THE BOD.
- H. ANY PLAYER REGISTERED WITH THE SWMFL, PLAYING OUT OF THE FRANCHISE BOUNDARIES HE REPRESENTS, MUST HAVE THAT FRANCHISES APPROVAL TO MOVE AND HAVE A BOUNDARY APPROVAL FORM ON FILE WITH THE SWMFL. APPROVED PLAYER REMAINS GRANTED FOR CONSECUTIVE WITH FRANCHISE PER REASON LISTED ON BOUNDARY RELEASE FORM. A BOUNDARY RELEASE FORM MUST BE COMPLETED FOR ANY OUT OF BOUNDARY COACH, SIBLINGS AND FUTURE SIBLINGS OF ANY PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PLAYER. THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR WITH THE REGISTERED OUT- OF-BOUNDARY PLAYER, MUST NOTIFY THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR WITHIN THAT BOUNDARY OF SAID PLAYER AS SOON AS THEY ARE AWARE OF THE OUT-OF-BOUNDARY PLAYER. THAT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR HAS 72 HOURS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE OUT-OF-BOUNDARY'S FAMILY. IF THE FAMILY DOES NOT RESPOND, THE IN-BOUNDARY ATHLETIC DIRECTOR MUST NOTIFY THE OUT-OF-BOUNDARY ATHLETIC OF THE ATTEMPT. IF NO ATTEMPT BY THE IN-BOUNDARY ATHLETIC DIRECTOR IS MADE WITHIN 72 HOURS OF NOTICE, THE FAMILY IS AUTOMATICALLY RELEASED TO THE OUT-OF- BOUNDARY FRANCHISE. *SEE VIOLATION 3*
- I. A PRE-WEIGH IN MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE THE WEEK PRIOR TO THE FIRST WEIGH-IN. ANY PLAYER WITH POTENTIAL EXCEPTION TO THE ADOPTED WEIGHT MATRIX MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE BOD FOR CONSIDERATION. THE BOD WILL, BY MAJORITY VOTE, DETERMINE ANY EXCEPTIONS TO BE ALLOWED. NO EXCEPTIONS OR MODIFICATIONS WILL BE MADE AT WEIGH-IN FOR ANY PLAYER NOT PRESENT AT PRE WEIGH-IN MEETING, INCLUDING USE OF INSURANCE.

VIOLATIONS OF ARTICLE IV

1. IF A PLAYER IS NOT PRESENT OR DOES NOT HAVE PROPER JERSEY AND/OR BIRTH CERTIFICATE AT THE FIRST WEIGH-IN, SAID PLAYER WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO WEIGH-IN AND THE PLAYER WILL BE INELIGIBLE FOR THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE SEASON AND MUST WEIGH IN BY NO LATER THAN THE TUESDAY FOLLOWING THE FIRST WEIGH-IN TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE SEASON. IF THE JERSEY NUMBER IS WRONG ON THE ROSTER BUT THE PLAYER IS PRESENT AND HAS A COPY OF THEIR BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR EQUIVALENT, VIOLATING FRANCHISE WILL BE FINED \$25.00 PER PLAYER BUT SAID PLAYER WILL BE ALLOWED TO WEIGH-IN.
2. PENALTY: ANY SWMFL ROSTERS OR BINDERS THAT ARE NOT IN SWMFL APPROVED FORMAT, MISSING ANY INFORMATION, OR ARE NOT AT WEIGH-IN SITE WILL BE SUBJECT TO A \$200.00 FINE PER EACH ROSTER OR BINDER.
3. ANY PLAYER FOUND NOT REGISTERED, OVER AGE, PLAYING OUTSIDE HIS FRANCHISED AREA WITHOUT WRITTEN APPROVAL, THE TEAM, NOT THE FRANCHISE, WILL FORFEIT THE ENTIRE SEASON. EACH TEAM SCHEDULED WILL BE AWARDED A WIN. THE FRANCHISE WILL ALSO BE SUBJECT TO BOARD REVIEW AND POSSIBLE FURTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND A \$500.00 MANDATORY FINE

ARTICLE V - PRACTICE

- A. PADDED FOOTBALL TEAM PRACTICE WILL BEGIN NO SOONER THAN AUGUST 1ST. OR AS AGREED UPON BY BOD AND FOLLOW USA FOOTBALL'S ACCLIMATION PERIOD. NO SWMFL FRANCHISE WILL BE ALLOWED TO ORGANIZE BY TEAM, CONDUCT ANY PRACTICE BY TEAM, OR CONDUCT CAMP BY TEAM OR MEET BY TEAM BEFORE AGREED START DATE. THE OFFICIAL END DATE OF THE SEASON IS DEC 31ST OF SAID YEAR. CHEER PRACTICE CAN START 1 WEEK PRIOR TO THE AGREED UPON START FOR PADDED FOOTBALL TEAM PRACTICE. *SEE VIOLATION 1*
- B. FOOTBALL PRACTICE IS LIMITED TO THREE (3) TIMES A WEEK AFTER THE FIRST SWMFL GAME WITH A MAXIMUM OF SIX (6) HRS TOTAL PER WEEK, AS WELL AS, AN ADDITIONAL TWO (2) HOURS OF FILM STUDY PER WEEK MAXIMUM. CHEER PRACTICE IS LIMITED TO FOUR (4) TIMES A WEEK AFTER THE FIRST WEIGH-IN AND FIRST SWMFL GAME WITH A MAXIMUM OF EIGHT (8) HRS TOTAL PER WEEK *SEE VIOLATION 1*
- C. PRACTICE IS LIMITED TO TWO (2) HOURS PER CALENDAR DAY AND FOLLOW USA FOOTBALL PRACTICE GUIDELINES.
- D. CONDITIONING CAMPS *SEE VIOLATION 1*
 - CONDITIONING CAMPS HELD THROUGHOUT THE OFF SEASON, DEC 31ST THRU JULY 31ST, MUST BE HELD FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF YOUTH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH AND FITNESS AND CANNOT HAVE ANY CONTACT DRILLS NOR ASSEMBLE TO PRACTICE OFFENSIVE OR DEFENSIVE PLAYS. FOOTBALLS ARE ALLOWED TO BE USED AT CAMPS.
 - CAMPS MUST BE OPEN TO ANY YOUTH WHO WISHES TO PARTICIPATE, AND MAY NOT BE A "CLOSED" CAMP FOR ONLY THE PARTICIPANTS OF ONE PARTICULAR FRANCHISE AND CAMPS CAN NOT BE BROKEN IN TO SWMFL AGE GROUPS OR TEAMS.
 - ANY PLAYER ATTENDING A SWMFL FRANCHISE CAMP THAT WAS REGISTERED THE PREVIOUS SEASON IS COVERED UNDER SWMFL INSURANCE. ANY ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANT MUST SIGN A LIABILITY WAIVER TO BE KEPT ON FILE.

VIOLATION OF ARTICLE V

1. TEAMS IN VIOLATION OF PRACTICE OR CAMP RESTRICTIONS WILL PAY A MINIMUM OF \$200.00 FINE AND SUBJECT TO FURTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION SUBJECT TO THE BOD

ARTICLE VI - TEAMS AND DIVISION OF PLAY

- A. ORDER OF GAMES; MIGHTY MITES, WIDGETS, PEE-WEES, LIGHTWEIGHTS, VARSITY. ANY CHANGES TO SCHEDULING MUST BE AGREED UPON BY BOTH FRANCHISES INVOLVED.
- B. A TEAM IS DEFINED AS A FIFTEEN (15) PERSON REGISTERED ROSTER. A TEAM MUST FIELD A MINIMUM OF THIRTEEN (13) ELIGIBLE PLAYERS AT THE COIN TOSS, OF WHICH ELEVEN (11) MUST BE REGISTERED TO THAT SPECIFIC ROSTER, TO START A GAME. IF A TEAM DOES NOT HAVE AT LEAST ELEVEN (11) PLAYERS REGISTERED TO THAT SPECIFIC ROSTER AT START OF THE SCHEDULED GAME, THAT SAID TEAM WILL FORFEIT. FRANCHISES CAN AGREE TO PLAY THE GAME, BUT THE OUTCOME WILL BE A FORFEIT LOSS TO THE SAID TEAM. A PLAYER MAY MOVE UP ONE (1) DIVISION OF PLAY TO FILL THE THIRTEEN (13) PLAYERS ROSTER SUBJECT TO THE NATIONAL FEDERATION HIGH SCHOOL RULES. ANY PLAYER MOVED UP TO FILL THE THIRTEEN (13) PLAYER ROSTER IS ONLY ELIGIBLE TO PLAY SPECIAL TEAMS AND IF THE SAID TEAM ROSTER FALLS UNDER 9 NON-STRIPED ELIGIBLE PLAYERS DURING THE GAME. BOTH FRANCHISE'S ATHLETIC DIRECTORS AND TEAM HEAD COACHES MUST AGREE PRIOR TO THE COIN TOSS. ANY POSSIBLE NEEDED ROSTER CHANGES BASED ON THE ABOVE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOD
- C. EACH TEAM WILL FURNISH THEIR OWN GAME BALL. HOME TEAM WILL FURNISH TEN-YARD MARKERS, END ZONE FLAGS, AND FIELD MARKERS. RESTRAINING ROPES WILL BE PLACED ON EACH SIDELINE A MINIMUM OF EIGHT (8) YARDS FROM PLAYING FIELD. HOME TEAM IS DEFINED AS THE SIDE OF THE FIELD WHERE THE PRESS BOX IS LOCATED. YARD TO GAIN MARKERS WILL ALWAYS BE ON THE HOME SIDE OF THE FIELD. PRIOR TO THE START OF THE FIRST GAME, BOTH ATHLETIC DIRECTORS, OR WHO IS ACTED AS SUCH, FROM EACH FRANCHISE WILL IDENTIFY THEMSELVES WITH EACH OTHER AND DISCUSS ANY QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, OR ISSUES PRIOR TO THE FIRST GAME OF THE DAY.
- D. UNIFORM COLORS ARE DETERMINED BY SENIORITY AND WILL BE FILED WITH THE SWMFL. ANY CHANGE TO UNIFORM MUST BE PRESENTED TO AND APPROVED BY THE BOD
- E. HOME TEAM WILL FURNISH DIRECTIONS OF EMERGENCY FACILITIES AND PROVIDE MEDICAL SERVICE ON THE FIELD, IF POSSIBLE AND NOTIFY VISITING FRANCHISE OF SAID SERVICES PRIOR TO THE START OF THE FIRST GAME OF THE DAY.

DIVISION OF PLAY

AGE IS DETERMINED BY CURRENT YEAR ON AUGUST 31ST

- NO PLAYER CAN TURN FIFTEEN (15) YEARS OLD BEFORE DECEMBER 1ST
- SLIDE DOWN ON LIGHTWEIGHT IS SUBJECT TO ORGANIZATION AND LEAGUE APPROVAL

Mighty Mites	Weight Maximums
Cannot turn 8 yrs old Before Sept 1st	
Age 5	90 lbs
Age 6	85 lbs
Age 7	80 lbs
Striper	92 lbs Max for All Ages

Widgets	Weight Maximums
Cannot turn 10 yrs old Before Sept 1st	
Age 7	105
Age 8	100 lbs
Age 9	95 lbs
Striper	107 lbs Max for All Ages

PeeWee	Weight Maximums
Cannot turn 12 yrs old Before Sept 1st	
NO Stripers at this Level	
Age 8	130 lbs
Age 9	125 lbs
Age 10	120 lbs
Age 11	95 lbs

Lightweight	Weight Maximums
Cannot turn 13 yrs old Before Sept 1st unless certified as a Slide Down	
NO Stripers at this Level	
Age 9	155 lbs
Age 10	150 lbs
Age 11	140 lbs
Age 12	130 lbs
Age 13	100 lbs Slide Down

Varsity	Weight Maximums
Cannot turn 15 yrs old Before Dec 1st	
Age 11	190 lbs
Age 12	185 lbs
Ages 13 & 14	175 lbs
Striper	220 lbs Max for All Ages

ARTICLE VII - SCHEDULED GAMES

- A. SWMFL SCHEDULE WILL BE CREATED BY SWMFL EXECUTIVE BOARD AND APPROVED BY BOD. THE SWMFL SEASON STARTS JULY 1ST AND ENDS DEC 31ST OF CURRENT YEAR. A SINGLE POST-SEASON FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT IS COVERED BY INSURANCE BUT NEEDS TO BE APPROVED BY THE BOD.
- B. SWMFL STANDINGS WILL BE BASED ON TWO (2) POINTS FOR A WIN, ½ POINT FOR A TIE, NO POINTS FOR A LOSS.
- C. TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED TO CONFERENCE WINNERS, IF CO-CHAMPS, TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED TO BOTH TEAMS. MEDALLIONS AND TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED TO BOTH TEAMS PARTICIPATING IN THE SUPER BOWL SUBJECT TO THE BOD.
- D. ALL SCORES MUST BE REPORTED TO SWMFL PRESIDENT BY 9 PM ON SUNDAY.
- E. SCHEDULED SWMFL GAMES THAT ARE CANCELLED FOR ANY REASON MUST BE RESCHEDULED WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS AND PLAYED WITHIN THAT WEEK UNLESS APPROVED BY THE BOD.

ARTICLE VIII - PROTEST OF GAMES

- A. PROTEST OF SWMFL RULES OR BYLAWS MUST BE IN WRITING AND FILED WITH THE SWMFL PRESIDENT WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS OF OCCURRENCE BY THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR OF SAID FRANCHISE. A \$50.00 DEPOSIT MUST ACCOMPANY PROTEST.
- B. IF PROTEST IS VALIDATED BY SWMFL PRESIDENT, THE PRESIDENT WILL ARRANGE A HEARING ON SAID PROTEST. THE BOD WILL BE PRESENT ONLY AT THE HEARING, SUBJECT TO THE BOD. IF FRANCHISE WINS DECISION ON PROTEST, SAID FRANCHISE IS RETURNED DEPOSIT.

ARTICLE IX - COACHES & TEAM REPRESENTATIVES

- A. ALL COACHES MUST COMPLETE AND PASS LEVEL ONE OF THE C.C.E.P. (CERTIFIED COACHES EDUCATION PROGRAM) AS ESTABLISHED BY THE SWMFL AND USA FOOTBALL. THE C.C.E.P. WILL BE RENEWED BY THE START OF EACH SEASON. ADDITIONALLY, ALL ATHLETIC DIRECTORS AND ALL HEAD COACHES IN BOTH FOOTBALL AND CHEER MUST BE CPR AND AED CERTIFIED BY A SWMFL DESIGNATED PROVIDER EVERY 2 YEARS. *SEE VIOLATION 1*
- B. ALL COACHES MUST SUBMIT TO A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK EVERY THREE (3) YEARS. NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO COACH IN THE SWMFL IF THEY HAVE A FELONY CONVICTION BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY TYPE OF CHILD ABUSE, MOLESTATION, BATTERY, DRUG POSSESSION, DRUG TRAFFICKING.
- C. EACH FRANCHISE MUST HAVE ON FILE A BACK-GROUND CHECK FOR EVERY COACH AND BE CURRENT WITH IN THE PAST THREE YEARS OR USE A PROGRAM THAT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED BY THE SWMFL. EACH FRANCHISE WILL FILE THE PROPER FORM WITH THE SWMFL EACH SEASON THAT THIS REQUIREMENT HAS BEEN MET. *SEE VIOLATION 2*
- D. THE SWMFL RESERVES THE RIGHT, BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE BOD, TO PLACE ON PROBATION AND/OR EXPEL ANY COACH, OR TEAM REPRESENTATIVE THAT BRINGS REPROACH TO THE SWMFL. THAT COACH, TEAM REPRESENTATIVE AND/OR FRANCHISE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY AND ALL LEGAL FEES INCURRED BY THE SWMFL.

VIOLATION OF ARTICLE V

1. *ANY COACH WHO FAILS TO COMPLETE OR PASS THE C.C.E.P AND CPR/AED CERTIFICATIONS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO COACH IN ANY CAPACITY WITH THE SWML. FRANCHISE WILL RECEIVE A MANDATORY \$100.00 FINE AND POSSIBLE PROBATION AND/OR EXPULSION FROM THE SWMFL.*
2. *POSSIBLE PROBATION AND/OR EXPULSION AND A MANDATORY \$500.00 FINE.*

ARTICLE X - OFFICIALS

- A. THE REFEREE ASSOCIATION WILL BE HANDLED BY THE SWMFL. THE BOD WILL APPROVE A REFEREE ASSIGNOR WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSIGNING CERTIFIED CREW CHIEFS AND OFFICIALS FOR ALL SWMFL GAMES. REFEREE FEES WILL BE DETERMINED EACH YEAR BY APPROVAL OF THE BOD. PAYMENTS TO REFEREES WILL BE MADE BY THE HOME TEAM, BY HALF TIME OF THE LAST GAME OF THE DAY.
- B. MIGHTY-MITE WILL REQUIRE TWO (2) OFFICIALS, WIDGETS, AND PEEWEE GAMES WILL REQUIRE AT LEAST THREE (3) OFFICIALS. LIGHTWEIGHTS & VARSITY WILL REQUIRE AT LEAST FOUR (4) OFFICIALS DURING THE REGULAR SEASON. THE LIGHTWEIGHTS AND VARSITY WILL ADD A 5TH OFFICIAL FOR ALL PLAYOFF GAMES
- C. ALL OFFICIALS MUST BE REGISTERED AND APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOD.
- D. ALL OFFICIALS WILL BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY THE BOD.
- E. ALL OFFICIALS WILL REPORT TO THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR OR REPRESENTATIVE UPON THEIR ARRIVAL AT GAME LOCATION
- F. THE REFEREE ASSIGNOR WILL NOTIFY EACH HOME TEAM OF THE OFFICIALS THAT ARE SCHEDULED TO BE AT THEIR SITE BY THE START OF THE SEASON. IF THERE ARE CHANGES IN OFFICIALS, THE ASSIGNOR WILL NOTIFY THE FRANCHISE REPRESENTATIVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. EACH HOME FRANCHISE AD WILL CONTACT BOTH THE CREW CHIEF AND OPPOSING AD BY NO LATER THAN 12 NOON TUESDAY OF SAID GAME WEEK TO CONFIRM TIMES AND LOCATION, ANY CHANGES AFTER THAT MUST BE APPROVED BY ALL PARTIES AND OR SUBJECT TO EXECUTIVE BOARD APPROVAL.
- G. THE ASSIGNOR WILL ALSO SUPPLY THE SWMFL PRESIDENT WITH A FULL ROSTER OF OFFICIALS.

ARTICLE XI EQUIPMENT STANDARDS

- A. EQUIPMENT STANDARDS WILL MEET ALL CURRENT N.F.H.S RULE BOOK SPECIFICATIONS AND MANUFACTURERS SPECIFICATIONS
 - EXCEPTIONS:
 - SHOES MUST BE MOLDED BOTTOM ONE PIECE SHOE. NO REMOVABLE CLEATS OF EITHER METAL OR RUBBER. PENALTY: PLAYER AND HEAD COACH WILL BE EJECTED FOR VIOLATION OF RULE ARTICLE XII SEC. G.
 - MOUTHPIECE SHALL BE A COMPLETE MOLDED PIECE. MOUTHPIECE MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE FACE MASK OF THE HELMET.
 - FACE SHIELDS MUST BE CLEAR, UNLESS PRESCRIBED BY A DOCTOR AND APPROVED BY THE BOD, AND MUST BE ATTACHED TO FACEMASK.
- B. A LEAGUE DESIGNATED BALL FOR THAT LEVEL OF PLAY WILL BE FURNISHED BY EACH TEAM IN GOOD WEATHER, IN BAD WEATHER A NEW BALL WILL BE FURNISHED FOR EACH GAME OR AS NEEDED *SEE VIOLATION 1*

- C. OFFICIAL BALL(S) FOR SWMFL GAMES SHALL BE DETERMINED PRIOR TO THE START OF THE SEASON. EACH SWMFL FRANCHISE WILL BE REQUIRED TO USE THE APPROVED BALL(S) AS EQUAL TO LEATHER WILSON FOOTBALLS: MIGHTY MITES K2, WIDGETS TDJ, PEEWEE TDJ, LIGHTWEIGHT TDY, VARSITY TDY.

VIOLATION OF ARTICLE XI

1. IF THE APPROVED BALL(S) IS NOT SUPPLIED BY EACH TEAM, GAME SHALL BE PLAYED, AND SWMFL FRANCHISE WILL RECEIVE A MANDATORY \$100.00 FINE FOR EACH GAME ADDITIONALLY IF A NON APPROVED BALL IS USED DURING A GAME, AN ADDITIONAL \$100.00 FINE WILL BE ASSESSED.

ARTICLE XII - GENERAL RULES

- A. NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE OF ANY KIND WILL BE PERMITTED AT THE FIELDS OR PARKING LOTS OF SWMFL OR SANCTIONED EVENT. *SEE VIOLATION 1*
- B. ANY FRANCHISE THAT FORFEITS MORE THAN ONE GAME IN ANY LEVEL IN A SEASON WILL BE SUBJECT TO FRANCHISE REVIEW FOR POSSIBLE FINES, DISCIPLINE AND/OR EVEN EXPULSION FROM THE SWMFL BY THE BOD.
- C. ONLY 7 CERTIFIED COACHES, IE ARTICLE IV SECTION D, WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE SIDELINES DURING A SWMFL GAME. ONE (1) ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATIVE IS ALLOWED ON THE SIDELINE AS A TEAM PARENT WITH THEM CLEARLY IDENTIFIED AS SUCH. SWMFL FRANCHISE'S ATHLETIC DIRECTOR OR ASSISTANT, OR CERTIFIED ATHLETIC TRAINER OR PHOTOGRAPHER IS NOT INCLUDED IF NOT COACHING IN THE GAME. *SEE VIOLATIONS 3, 4, 5*
- D. HEAD COACHES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COACHES, TEAM REPS., PLAYERS, CHEERLEADERS AND FANS FROM THEIR TEAM DURING THEIR SPECIFIC GAME. *SEE VIOLATION 4*
- E. ANY COACH THAT IS EJECTED FROM A GAME WILL IMMEDIATELY SERVE A ONE (1) WEEK SUSPENSION FROM ALL ASPECTS OF SAID FRANCHISE AND SWMFL SANCTIONED ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT ELIGIBLE WEEK PENDING EXECUTIVE BOARD APPROVAL. POST THE EJECTION WILL ALSO BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY THE SWMFL BOD. THE HEAD COACH WILL ALSO BE EJECTED WITH ANY COACH THAT IS EJECTED BUT IS ABLE TO PARTICIPATE AT THE NEXT ELIGIBLE WEEK UNLESS HE/SHE WAS THE ORIGINAL COACH EJECTED.
- F. BEFORE THE START OF EACH GAME THE OFFICIALS WILL CALL OUT THE HEAD COACHES AND TEAM CAPTAINS FOR INTRODUCTION AND COIN FLIP. THE COACH PRESENT AT THE COIN TOSS IS THEN DESIGNATED AS THE HEAD COACH OF SAID TEAM. THE HEAD COACH MUST VERIFY THAT ALL PLAYERS ARE LEGAL AND PROPERLY EQUIPPED.
- G. AFTER HALF TIME CREW CHIEF AND HEAD COACH WILL DISCUSS ANY POSSIBLE PROBLEMS OR PLAYERS, FANS CHEERLEADERS. *SEE VIOLATION 6.*
- H. HEAD COACHES ONLY, IN A DISCRETE MANNER, HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK CREW CHIEF FOR AN EXPLANATION OF A PENALTY AND OR THE RESULT OF A PENALTY.
- I. COACHES WILL RECEIVE ONE (1) WARNING FOR BEING ON THE FIELD
- J. ANY PLAYER THAT IS EJECTED FROM A GAME MUST IMMEDIATELY LEAVE THE FIELD INCLUDING THE SIDELINE AND WILL ALSO SERVE A ONE (1) GAME SUSPENSION FOR THE NEXT ELIGIBLE GAME IN THE CURRENT SEASON BUT IS ELIGIBLE TO PRACTICE THAT WEEK AND WILL ALSO BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY THE SWMFL BOD.
- K.

- L. NO NON-REMOVABLE CAST OF ANY KIND (HARD OR SOFT) MAY BE WORN ON ANY PART OF THE BODY. NO METAL BRACES OF ANY TYPE WILL BE ALLOWED.
- M. LIGHTING AND IN CLIMATE WEATHER WILL FOLLOW N.F.H.S. GUIDELINES
 - 30 SECOND RULE BETWEEN LIGHTNING AND THE SOUND OF THUNDER
 - IF GAME IS STOPPED FOR LIGHTNING, DELAY SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF 30 MINUTES BEFORE BEING RESUMED.
- N. A LOCKER ROOM OR EQUIVALENT MUST BE AVAILABLE TO USE FOR BOTH HOME AND VISITORS
- O. THERE IS NO ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT ALLOWED DURING ANY SWMFL GAMES THIS INCLUDES BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO: ANY TYPE OF COMMUNICATION DEVICES, CELL PHONES, PHOTOGRAPHY EQUIPMENT, DRONES THAT WILL BE USED OR SEEN DURING THE GAME OR AT HALF TIME. FILMING OF YOUR GAMES IS PERMISSIBLE IF NOT SEEN OR USED AT ANYTIME DURING THE CURRENT GAME. ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT IS ALLOWED FOR SCOUTING PURPOSES ONLY OUTSIDE YOUR OWN FRANCHISES, GAMES AND GUIDELINES. *SEE VIOLATION 7*

VIOLATION OF ARTICLE XII

1. *IF ANYONE, IN ATTENDANCE OF A SWMFL EVENT, VIOLATES SAID RULE. FIRST VIOLATION WILL BE A WARNING FROM THE SWMFL PRESIDENT; SECOND VIOLATION WILL RESULT IN POSSIBLE SWMFL PROBATION, WITH POSSIBLE SWMFL EXPULSION SUBJECT TO THE BOD. FIRST VIOLATION BY A COACH OF ANY DIVISION OR ANY MEMBER OF THE SWMFL WILL BE SUBJECT TO IMMEDIATE PROBATION, SERVE A ONE GAME SUSPENSION WHEN APPLICABLE AND POSSIBLE EXPULSION, SUBJECT TO THE BOD*
2. *ANY FRANCHISE THAT FORFEITS MORE THAN ONE GAME IN ANY LEVEL IN A SEASON WILL BE SUBJECT TO FRANCHISE REVIEW FOR POSSIBLE FINES, DISCIPLINE AND/OR EVEN EXPULSION FROM THE SWMFL BY THE BOD.*
3. *THE HEAD COACH WILL RECEIVE A SIDELINE WARNING, THE FAILURE TO REMOVE ANY EXTRA COACHES OR TEAM REPS. WILL BE AN EJECTION TO THE HEAD COACH AND SUBJECT TO A FINE PER THE BOD.*
4. *HEAD COACHES CAN BE EJECTED FOR FAILURE TO CONTROL THE SIDELINE AND SUBJECT TO A FINE PER THE BOD. ANY COACH THAT IS EJECTED FROM A GAME WILL IMMEDIATELY SERVE A ONE (1) WEEK SUSPENSION FROM ALL ASPECTS OF SAID FRANCHISE AND SWMFL SANCTIONED ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT ELIGIBLE WEEK PENDING EXECUTIVE BOARD APPROVAL. POST THE EJECTION WILL ALSO BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY THE SWMFL BOD. THE HEAD COACH WILL ALSO BE EJECTED WITH ANY COACH THAT IS EJECTED BUT IS ABLE TO PARTICIPATE AT THE NEXT ELIGIBLE WEEK UNLESS HE/SHE WAS THE ORIGINAL COACH EJECTED.*
5. *FRANCHISE WILL RECEIVE A MANDATORY \$100.00 FINE PER EJECTED COACH EXCLUDING THE HEAD COACH UNLESS HE/SHE WAS THE ORIGINAL COACH EJECTED*
6. *COACHES WILL RECEIVE ONE (1) WARNING FOR BEING ON THE FIELD. ANY PLAYER THAT IS EJECTED FROM A GAME MUST IMMEDIATELY LEAVE THE FIELD INCLUDING THE SIDELINE AND WILL ALSO SERVE A ONE (1) GAME SUSPENSION FOR NEXT ELIGIBLE GAME IN THE CURRENT SEASON BUT IS ELIGIBLE TO PRACTICE THAT WEEK AND WILL ALSO BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY THE BOD.*
7. *THE HEAD COACH WILL BE EJECTED, AND SWMFL FRANCHISE WILL FACE POSSIBLE PROBATION AND/OR EXPULSION SUBJECT TO THE BOD AND A MANDATORY \$500.00 FINE.*

ARTICLE XIII GAME RULES

- A. ALL GAMES WILL BE UNDER NATIONAL FEDERATION HIGH SCHOOL RULES.
 - FIELD – 100 YARDS LONG WITH A MINIMUM OF 50 YARDS WIDE
 - EXCEPTION – MIGHTY MITE FIELD 40 YARDS BY 40 YARDS

- B. IN THE EVENT THAT A SWMFL GAMES ENDS IN A TIE THE FOLLOWING WILL APPLY:
A COIN FLIP WILL IMMEDIATELY TAKE PLACE; THE WINNER OF THE FLIP WILL SELECT TO BE ON OFFENSE OR DEFENSE. THE REFEREES WILL DETERMINE WHAT END ZONE TO USE. EACH TEAM WILL GET ONE OPPORTUNITY TO SCORE. THE BALL WILL BE PLACED AT THE TEN (10) YARD LINE AND THE TEAM ON OFFENSE FIRST WILL GET A NEW SET OF DOWNS TO TRY AND SCORE BY A FIELD GOAL OR A TOUCHDOWN. IF THE TEAM ON OFFENSE SCORES AT ANY TIME DURING THEIR SET OF DOWNS, OR FAILS TO SCORE, THE TEAM ON DEFENSE WILL THEN GET AN OPPORTUNITY TO TRY AND SCORE. IF BOTH TEAMS SCORE THE SAME TOTAL OF POINTS OR IF NEITHER TEAM SCORES, THE GAME WILL RESULT IN A TIE. ALL PENALTY ENFORCEMENTS WILL APPLY. AT ANY TIME IF THE TEAM ON DEFENSE GAINS THE POSSESSION OF THE BALL, THE PLAY IS DEAD AND THE TEAM ON OFFENSE HAS COMPLETED THEIR TRY. THE DEFENSE CAN NEVER SCORE.
- THE ABOVE OVER TIME RULE ONLY APPLIES TO THE LIGHTWEIGHT AND VARSITY DIVISION DURING THE REGULAR SEASON AND THEN TO ALL LEVELS DURING THE PLAYOFFS

CLOCK PROCEDURE

- C. CLOCK PROCEDURE WILL FOLLOW NATIONAL FEDERATION HIGH SCHOOL RULES FOR VARSITY & LIGHTWEIGHTS WITH TEN (10) MINUTE QUARTERS. PEEWEES & WIDGET PLAY NINE (9) MINUTE QUARTERS BUT THE CLOCK WILL START AS SOON THE OFFICIAL SPOTS THE BALL REGARDLESS OF AN INCOMPLETE PASS, OUT BOUNDS PLAY, CHANGE OF POSSESSION ETC. HIGH SCHOOL CLOCK RULES WILL APPLY DURING THE LAST TWO (2) MINUTES OF THE FIRST HALF AND GAME FOR THE PEEWEES AND WIDGETS. MIGHTY MITES WILL PLAY (2) 25 MINUTE RUNNING CLOCK HALF'S
- D. AFTER BALL HAS BEEN SPOTTED TEAM HAS 25 SECONDS TO SNAP
- E. A GAME CANNOT START MORE THAN 15 MINUTES BEFORE ITS SCHEDULED TIME, UNLESS AGREED UPON BY BOTH ACTING HEAD COACHES
- F. THE HALFTIME OF EACH GAME WILL BE TEN (10) MINUTES. HALF TIME CAN BE EXTENDED TO FIFTEEN (15) MINUTES OF THE HOMECOMING GAME ONLY OF EACH FRANCHISE AND THE HOME FRANCHISE MUST GIVE THE VISITING FRANCHISE SUFFICIENT NOTICE OF CHANGE.

SPECIFIC GAME RULES

- A. CENTER CAN SNAP THE BALL WITH ONE HANDS OR TWO BUT NEEDS TO BE FACING PERPENDICULAR TO THE LINE OF SCRIMMAGE
- B. NO HITTING OF THE CENTER WHEN LINING UP IN A VULNERABLE POSITION, EXAMPLE SNAPPING FOR A FIELD GOAL OR PUNT.
- C. ONLY (2) STRIPERS CAN PLAY ON THE OFFENSIVE OR DEFENSIVE LINES AT ANY ONE TIME.
- D. OFFENSIVE STRIPERS CAN LINE UP IN ANY POSITION FROM TACKLE TO TACKLE WITH A MAXIMUM 2 YARD SPLIT.
- E. DEFENSIVE STRIPERS CAN LINE UP IN ANY POSITIONS FROM INSIDE TO HEAD UP OF THE OFFENSIVE TACKLE AND MUST BE IN A 3 POINT STANCE.
- F. A STRIPER CAN BE THE KICKER ON THE KICKOFF BUT MUST RUN OFF THE FIELD IMMEDIATELY AFTER KICKING THE BALL – HE IS NOT ALLOWED TO RUN DOWN FIELD IN ANY WAY AND IS NOT ALLOWED ON KICK RETURN.
- G. A STRIPER CAN BE THE KICKER FOR A FIELD GOAL OR EXTRA POINT, BUT IF HE GAINS POSSESSION OF THE BALL IN ANY WAY, THE PLAY IS DEAD IMMEDIATELY.
- H. OFFENSIVE TACKLES WILL ALWAYS LINE UP IN A STANDARD SPLIT FORMATION (WITHIN 2 YARDS OF THE GUARD) AND GUARDS AND TACKLES ARE INELIGIBLE TO CATCH A PASS
- I. IF A STRIPER GAINS POSSESSION OF THE BALL AT ANY TIME ON ANY PLAY - THE PLAY BECOMES DEAD IMMEDIATELY.

- J. ALL PENALTY'S WILL FOLLOW N.F.H.S.
- K. 30 POINT SLAUGHTER RULE AS FOLLOWS:
- NO PASSING BY TEAM AHEAD, RUNNING CLOCK, NO KICK OFFS, TEAM BEHIND GETS BALL AT THE 50 YARD LINE AFTER A SCORE, TEAM A HEAD GETS BALL AT THEIR 20 YARD LINE AFTER A SCORE, STARTING RUNNING BACKS (NOT QUARTERBACK) MUST BE REMOVED FROM THE BACKFIELD, (THEY CAN PLAY ON THE INTERIOR OFFENSIVE LINE). NO BLITZING ALLOWED BY EITHER TEAM. SLAUGHTER RULE NOT IN EFFECT UNTIL THE 2ND HALF, TEAM BEHIND STARTS 2ND HALF WITH THE BALL. ONCE SLAUGHTER RULE TAKES EFFECT IT CAN NOT BE REVERSED, FOLLOWING GAMES WILL NOT START UNTIL THERE ARE SCHEDULED TIME (NO EXCEPTIONS)

ARTICLE IX CHEERLEADING

- A. CHEER ROSTERS ARE DUE NO LATER AT THE FIRST SWMFL SCHEDULED FOOTBALL PLAYERS WEIGH IN DATE. ROSTERS MUST BE LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER INCLUDING NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, PHONE AND BIRTHDATE AND GRADE. THESE SQUAD ROSTERS ARE TO REPRESENT THE TEAM DIVISION (CHEERLEADERS) CHEERING ON THE SIDELINES DURING ALL SWMFL GAMES. ADDITION TO THE CHEERLEADERS THEMSELVES, ALL COACHES MUST BE LISTED AS WELL. *SEE VIOLATION 1*
- B. NO FRANCHISE IS REQUIRED TO HAVE CHEERLEADERS TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SWMFL. GAME TEAM DIVISION ROSTERS MAY BE ASSEMBLE AS DETERMINED BY EACH FRANCHISE AND DO NOT HAVE TO BE THE SAME AS COMPETITION GROUPED ROSTERS. ALL COMPETITIONATHLETES MUST ON A GAME DAY DIVISION ROSTER, HOWEVER, NOT ALL GAME DIVISION ATHLETES MUST ONE ON A COMPETITION ROSTER. COMPETITION ROSTERS WILL BE PROVIDED PRIOR TO THE IDENTIFIED LEAGUE COMPETITION.
- C. ALL ROSTERED CHEERLEADERS MUST ATTEND ALL LEAGUE SCHEDULED GAMES, INCLUDING PLAYOFFS. EXCEPTION: IF A GAME IS RESCHEDULE DUE TO WEATHER OR OTHER UNFORESEEN OCCURRENCES, ATTENDANCE IS AT THE DISCRETION OF EACH FRANCHISE. ONLY 4 COACHES PER DESIGNATED TEAM ROSTER WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE SIDELINES DURING A SWMFL SANCTIONED EVENT. FRANCHISE MAY SWITCH SQUAD GAME DAY DIVISION TO AVOID POTENTIAL CONFLICT, HOWEVER, THE SAME NUMBER OF GAMES MUST BE COVERED AS OFFICIALLY REGISTERED AND ALL CHEERLEADERS TO CHEER EACH WEEKEND GAMES SCHEDULE. ANY SWITCH MUST BE REPORTED TO THE OPPOSING AD IN THE WEEKLY COMMUNICATION. *SEE VIOLATION 2*
- D. ANY CHEERLEADER REGISTERED WITHIN THE SWML, CHEERING OUT OF THE FRANCHISE BOUNDARIES REPRESENTED MUST HAVE THAT FRANCHISE APPROVAL TO MOVE AND HAVE A BOUNDARY RELEASE FOR ON FILE WITH THE SWMFL. NO CHEERLEADER CAN BE REGISTERED IN THE SWMFL AND ROSTERED ON ANOTHER CHEER TEAM DURING THE SEASON TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY LEAGUE SPONSORED COMPETITION OR ASSOCIATED WITH SWMFL INSURANCE. ANY DOUBLE ROSTERED CHEERLEADER MUST BE IDENTIFIED AS SUCH AND IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN SIDELINE CHEER ONLY. *SEE VIOLATION 3*
- E. SWMFL INSURANCE COVERS LEAGUE HOSTED AND SWMFL SANCTIONED COMPETITION EVENTS. ADDITIONAL INSURANCE COVERAGE THRU THE SWMFL MAY BE PURCHASED AT \$150 PER COMPETITION EVENT, PER ORGANIZATION, PAYABLE PRIOR TO THE EVENT DATE; SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SWMFL BOD.
- F. CONDUCT FOR CHEERLEADERS AND CHEERLEADING COACHES ARE THE SAME AS IN ARTICLE XII - GENERAL RULES OF SWMFL BY LAWS.
- G. A CHEER SQUAD THAT TRAVELS WITH THEIR FRANCHISE'S FOOTBALL TEAM FOR (1) END OF SEASON TOURNAMENT IS COVERED BY SWMFL INSURANCE, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE SWMFL BOD.

- H. CHEERLEADERS WILL SHAKE HANDS FOLLOWING THEIR HALF-TIME ROUTINES NOT FOLLOWING THE FOOTBALL GAME.
- I. PRACTICE MAY START 1 WEEK PRIOR TO AGREED UPON START DATE FOR FOOTBALL TEAM PRACTICE. THE OFFICIAL END DATE OF SEASON IS DEC 31ST OF SAID YEAR. NO FRANCHISE IS ALLOWED TO ORGANIZE BY TEAM, CONDUCT PRACTICE BY TEAM, OR CONDUCT A CAMP OR MEET BY TEAM BEFORE AGREED START DATE. *SEE VIOLATION 4.*
- J. CHEER PRACTICE IS LIMITED TO 4 TIMES PER WEEK PER ATHLETE AFTER THE FIRST REGULAR SEASON GAME WITH A MAXIMUM OF 8 HOURS PER ATHLETE PER WEEK. THIS IS LIMITED TO 2 HRS PER CALENDAR DAY. *SEE VIOLATION 4*
- K. CONDITIONING CAMPS HELD THROUGHOUT OFF SEASON, DEC 31ST THRU JULY 31ST, MUST BE HELD FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF YOUTH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH AND FITNESS AND CANNOT ASSEMBLE TO PRACTICE ANY ROUTINES. CAMPS MAY ONLY BE SKILL BASED AND CAN NOT BE BROKEN INTO SWMFL GROUPS, ROSTERS OR SQUADS. CAMPS ARE OPEN TO ANYONE THAT WISHES TO PARTICIPATE AND LIABILITY WAIVERS MUST BE ON FILE FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS. *SEE VIOLATION 4*
- L. COACHES AND REPRESENTATIVES ARE SAME AS STATED IN ARTICLE Lx
- M. THE SWMFL BOD AND ITS BY-LAWS APPLY TO CHEER FOR ANY/ALL ADDITIONAL RULES AND LEAGUE EVENTS.

VIOLATION OF ARTICLE IX

- 1. A VIOLATING SWMFL FRANCHISE WILL RECEIVE A \$100.00 FINE*
- 2. A VIOLATING SWMFL FRANCHISE WILL RECEIVE A \$100 FINE AND SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY SWMFL BOD INCLUDING POSSIBLE REMOVAL FROM THE SWMFL.*
- 3. IF ANY SQUAD REPRESENTING UNDER SWMFL NAME, ATTENDS ANY OUTSIDE COMPETITION WITHOUT NOTIFYING AND PAYING THE LEAGUE FEE OR PROVIDING PROOF OF A PRIVATE INSURANCE POLICY, THE VIOLATING SWMFL FRANCHISE IS SUBJECT UP TO A \$500 DETERMINED BY THE SWMFL BOARD OF DIRECTORS. A 2ND VIOLATION MAY RESULT THE VIOLATING FRANCHISE DISMISSAL FROM THE SWMFL SUBJECT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.*
- 4. A VIOLATING SWMFL FRANCHISE WILL RECEIVE A \$200.00 FINE AND SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY SWMFL BOD FOR ANY ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS*