

Constitution and By-Laws
Of
The Michigan Wrestling Association
(revised 11/7/08)

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of the association shall be the Michigan Wrestling Association (MWA).

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the association shall be:

- (A) To have as our primary concern the welfare, betterment, physical and mental well-being of the young athlete participating in wrestling.
- (B) The promotion of competitive wrestling generally and in the state of Michigan particularly.
- (C) The promotions of improved recognition for wrestling in the schools and other agencies of the state.
- (D) The promotion of correct teaching of wrestling techniques.
- (E) The dissemination of information pertaining to amateur wrestling in Michigan.
- (F) Cooperation with and recommendation to the high school representatives on the NCAA Wrestling Rules Committee and to the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

The association will consist of members as hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

The officers of the association shall be the PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN and MEMBER AT LARGE. Officers shall hold no more than one elected position at any given point in time.

ARTICLE V – GOVERNMENT

The business of the association shall be conducted by the executive board and the members as hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE VI – AMENDMENTS

Section I – How Amended

This constitution may be amended by an affirmative majority vote of the association members provided:

- (A) The proposed amendment has been submitted to the members in writing, or on the website, www.mwaonline.org , at least 30 days prior to the vote and
- (B) The executive board has approved the proposed amendment, and
- (C) The vote is taken at the annual fall meeting or absentee ballot, by mail or by e-mail through the website.

Section II – By-Laws, Adoption, Amendment, Repeal

By-Laws of the association may be adopted, amended or repealed by a majority affirmative vote of the members present at a regular meeting where there is a plurality.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP

Section I – Eligible for Membership

Membership in the association shall be granted, upon payment of dues, to all high school, junior high school, and college wrestling coaches, to wrestling officials, and to wrestling enthusiasts.

Section II – Kinds of Membership

Membership in the association shall be designated as Current and Honorary.

Section III – Current Membership

Current membership shall be extended to all high school, junior high school, and college wrestling coaches; registered wrestling officials; and wrestling enthusiasts.

Section IV – Honorary Membership

Honorary membership in the association may be extended to persons deemed worthy of this distinction upon recommendation of the executive board and confirmed by an affirmative majority vote of the members present at a regularly scheduled meeting:

- (A) An honorary member shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of the MWA except that he shall pay no dues.
- (B) No person shall be elected to honorary membership unless he has rendered some special service to wrestling in the state of Michigan.
- (C) Past presidents of MWA shall be eligible for honorary membership upon retirement from active coaching.

Section V – Membership Year

The membership year shall begin on November 1st and end on October 31st.

ARTICLE II – DUES

Section I – Current Membership

Membership dues shall be an amount to be determined by the executive board and shall be paid annually to the MWA Treasurer. Membership will include MHSCA and MWA membership.

Section II – Enrollment Period

The enrollment period will be from September 1st – August 31st.

ARTICLE III – OFFICERS

Section I – Election

The officers of the association shall be elected at the fall meeting by secret written ballot or acclamation.

- (A) The executive board shall be made up of the following elected officers:
1)PRESIDENT, 2)EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT, 3)SECRETARY,
4)TREASURER, 5)MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN and 6)MEMBER AT LARGE.
- (B) Each officer shall have a 2-year term which starts at the annual fall membership meeting and will end 2 years later at the annual fall membership meeting.
- (C) Elected executive board members will determine office positions each year, with the exception of President, to be determined in even years starting at the annual fall membership meeting in 2006.
- (D) Three officer positions will be up for election every year starting at the annual fall membership meeting in 2005.
- (E) The executive board member must have been on the board at least 1 year prior to assuming the office of President. The office of President shall have a 2 consecutive term limit. A past President is eligible to become President again after sitting out 1 term.
- (F) If a board member is unable to fulfill his term, the position may be filled by board appointment until the next annual fall meeting.
- (G) Nominations for elected board positions of the association shall be made from the floor. Only members of the association shall be elected.
- (H) Three of the elected board positions will be up for election starting at the annual fall meeting in 2005. The first 3 to be up for election are the people in the current positions of Membership Chair, Member At Large, and Treasurer. At the annual fall meeting in 2006, the remaining 3 board positions will be up for election.
- (I) A schedule of the elected board positions and terms shall be maintained by the Secretary.

Section II – President

- (A) The President shall preside at all regular and special meetings except as provided for under duties of the Vice-President.
- (B) The President shall be a member of all committees.

- (C) The President shall perform other specific duties as provided in this Constitution and By-Laws:
1. Arranges for presentation of plaques for past presidents.
 2. Arrange time, place and agenda for all meetings at least 2 weeks in advance.
 3. Arrange for the conduct of elections.
- (D) The President shall carry out policies and decisions of the membership and perform other duties described or implied in this Constitution and By-Laws.

Section III – Executive Vice –President

The Executive Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his absence. He shall also be responsible for the distribution of state rankings of teams to the media; all formal press releases.

Section IV – Secretary

The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the minutes of all meetings of the association and the executive board. He shall complete the pertinent correspondence of the association as directed by the President and/or the executive board. Also, he shall provide minutes to the executive board in a timely manner after each executive board/general membership meeting.

Section V – Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all association funds and keeps accurate records of such transaction. He shall oversee the accuracy of the membership account. He shall make a written report to the members at the annual fall meeting, showing all business transactions of the association for the previous year.

Section VI – Membership Chairman

The Membership Chairman shall administer all membership drives and keep an accurate record of all current and past memberships, including tracking 20-year members and arranging for their recognition/awards. He shall also provide an accurate, current membership roster to the Coach of Year Committee Chair as of February 1st for election purposes. Also, the Membership Chairman shall coordinate MHSCA Membership and arrange for payment to the MHSCA by the Treasurer.

Section VII – Member At Large

The Member At Large will fulfill such duties as determined by the executive board.

Section VIII – Appointed Committee Chairs:

Appointed Committee Chairs shall include: 1) COACH OF THE YEAR, 2) FALL CLINIC, 3) CERTIFICATES/HISTORIAN, 4) HALL OF FAME, 5) MHSCA, 6) TECHNOLOGY, and 7) ACADEMIC ALL-STATE. Committee chairs are appointed by the President with a majority approval of the officers. Within 2 months after a new Presidential term begins, Committee chairs will officially be either re-appointed or dismissed.

ARTICLE IV – EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section I – Membership

Administrative control and executive authority of the association shall be vested in the executive board, which shall consist of the President, Executive Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chairman, and Member At Large, plus the appointed committee chairs of Coach of the Year, Fall Clinic, Certificates/Historian, Hall of Fame, MHSCA, Technology, and Academic All-State.

Section II – Meetings

The executive board shall meet 1) prior to the general membership meeting at the annual fall clinic, 2) the 2nd Sunday in January, 3) at the individual state tournament, 4) the 2nd Sunday in May, 5) the 2nd Sunday in September, and at any such time and place as the President may decide.

Section III – Duties

It shall be the duty of the executive board to:

- (A) Approve or disapprove of proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws.
- (B) Recommend candidates for Honorary Membership in this association.
- (C) Act for this association in any emergency not covered by this Constitution and By-Laws.
- (D) Approve or disapprove recommended actions of all committees.

Section IV – Quorum

A quorum of the executive board shall consist of seven (7) of its members or four (4) of its elected members in accordance with the provisions hereinafter stated.

Section V – Notification

Written notice of executive board meetings shall be sent to each member at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES

Section I – Standing Committees

Standing Committees shall consist of MWA members with a Committee Chair appointed by the President.

Section II – President's Committees

The President may appoint such committees as he deems necessary to properly carry out the business and programs of the association. President's Committees are appointed by the President and shall terminate with his term of office.

ARTICLE VI – GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section I – Fall Meeting

The annual fall meeting of the MWA shall occur on the first or second weekend in November as selected by the executive board. The meeting shall include a clinic on wrestling techniques.

Section II –Special Meetings

The President may call special meetings as deemed necessary by the executive board.

Section IV – Time, Site, Notification

The President shall set the exact site and time of all meetings. He shall inform the membership at least two weeks in advance of all meetings.

ARTICLE VII – AWARDS

Section I – Coach of the Year

- (A) The MWA shall annually recognize a member for the Coach of the Year Award for each division.
- (B) Only Regional Coach of the Year members shall qualify for Coach of the Year.
- (C) MWA members shall select the Coach of the Year by secret e-mail ballot (on the website, www.mwaonline.org) the week before the Individual State Final Tournament. The Coach of the Year Chairman or designee shall complete the balloting process. A typewritten statement by each candidate will be available on the website with each ballot.
- (D) An appropriate plaque shall be awarded each Coach of the Year.

Section II – Regional Coach of the Year

- (A) The MWA shall annually recognize two (and only two) member coaches from each individual Region in each division as Coach of the Year for their respective Region.
- (B) A Regional Coach of the Year shall be voted on by secret written ballot by MWA members at each Regional Tournament.
- (C) An appropriate plaque shall be awarded each Regional Coach of the Year.
- (D) Head varsity coaches are eligible for this award provided their dues are paid before the beginning of Individual Regional matches of the current year.

Section III – Assistant Coach of the Year

- (A) The MWA shall annually recognize a member for the Assistant Coach of the Year Award for each division.
- (B) Only Regional Assistant Coach of the Year members shall qualify for Assistant Coach of the Year.
- (C) The MWA Executive Board shall select the Assistant Coach of the Year.

(D) An appropriate plaque shall be awarded each Assistant Coach of the Year.

Section IV – Regional Assistant Coach of the Year

- (A) The MWA shall annually recognize one (and only one) member coach from each Individual Region in each division as Assistant Coach of the Year for their respective Region.
- (B) A Regional Assistant Coach of the Year shall be voted on by secret written ballot by MWA members at each Regional Tournament.
- (C) An appropriate plaque shall be awarded each Regional Assistant Coach of the Year.
- (D) Assistant Varsity Coaches are eligible for this award provided their dues are paid before the beginning of Individual Regional matches of the current year.

Section V – Officials

The MWA shall annually award appropriate certificates to all State Final Tournament Officials.

Section VI – Retiring Presidents

The MWA shall award an appropriate plaque to each retiring President commemorating his term of service. Presentation of the award shall be made by the current President one (1) year after the retiring President leaves office, to be presented at the Hall of Fame Banquet.

Section VII – MHSCA Coach of the Year

The MWA shall designate a single wrestling Coach of the Year to be honored at the Michigan High School Coaches Association at their annual convention. According to MWA policy, an individual may be so honored only once in his career.

Section VIII – Service Award

Each MWA member who has a minimum of twenty (20) years as an active member will receive an MWA Jacket or its equivalent to express the association's appreciation for the dedication shown to the MWA.

Section IX - Media Award

The MWA may recognize a media person(s) for outstanding coverage of wrestling in the State of Michigan. A plaque shall be awarded at the fall banquet as recognition for such exceptional media coverage. Nominations for this award will be solicited from the membership and final selections will be the sole responsibility of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII – RULES OF ORDER

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings of the association and the executive board. The presiding officer may appoint a parliamentarian.

ARTICLE IX – QUORUM

A majority of members of the association shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE X – PROXY

A proxy shall be a member of the association. The Secretary of the association shall be notified in writing at least one week before the date of any meeting by any member who wishes to vote by proxy. This notice shall also name the current member who will act as proxy.

ARTICLE XI – RATIFICATION

Ratification of the Constitution and By-Laws shall require an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members present at a regular meeting where a plurality is present.

ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

These By-Laws may be amended by a majority affirmative vote of the members at an annual meeting where a quorum is present, by e-mail, or by mail vote, providing the proposed amendment has been approved by the executive board and has been submitted to the membership in accordance with provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws (30 days notice prior to vote).

Section I – 1st Amendment (Approved Unanimously at 2008 MWA Fall Clinic General Membership Meeting on 11/7/08)

If the MWA officially dissolves, its assets will be equally distributed to the existing collegiate wrestling programs in the State of Michigan.