

MICHIGAN INDEPENDENT ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

MIAC

CONSTITUTION

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THE MICHIGAN INDEPENDENT ATHLETIC CONFERENCE**

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the MICHIGAN INDEPENDENT ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall include the following:

1. To organize and conduct a program of interscholastic athletic competition among the member schools.
2. To promote the improvement of character of the participants through the understanding and practicing of good sportsmanship and fair play.
3. To promote friendship and understanding among the conference school communities.

ARTICLE III – GOVERNANCE OF THE CONFERENCE

Section 1: Organizational Structure

- A. The administration of the Conference shall be vested in the Combined Council, which is composed of the Executive Committee and the Athletic Committee.
 1. Each school shall have one vote. The simplified Roberts Rules of Order shall be used at all meetings.
 2. Three-fourths of the member schools shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
 3. Issues requiring a vote will be decided by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of the member schools (6 of 8, 7 of 9, 8 of 10, 9 of 11, 9 of 12, 12 of 16).
 4. Meetings of the Combined Council shall take place twice per year.
 5. Special meetings of the Combined Council may be called by the Chairman, or at the request of a majority of the member schools.

- B. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Principals of the member schools.
- C. The Athletic Committee shall be composed of the Athletic Directors of the member schools.

Section 2: Officers of the Conference

- A. The Chairman of the Conference shall be elected by the Executive Committee and shall be a Principal of a member school.
- B. The Secretary of the Conference shall be elected by the Athletic Committee and shall be an Athletic Director of a member school.
- C. The Treasurer of the Conference shall be elected by the Athletic Committee and shall be an Athletic Director of a member school.
- D. The Athletic Commissioner of the Conference shall be elected by the Athletic Committee and shall be an Athletic Director of a member school.

Section 3: Election of the Officers

- A. The officers shall be elected during a Second meeting of the Combined Council.
- B. All officers shall serve a term of two years. The Chairman and Treasurer shall be elected on alternating years with the Athletic Commissioner and Secretary.
- C. Each school shall have one vote, and decisions will be made on the basis of a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of the member schools.
- D. Vacancies except for the Chairman will be filled by the Athletic Committee.
- E. Schools on probationary status may not have representatives serving as officers.

Section 4: Duties of the Officers

- A. The Chairman of the Conference is responsible for the general management of the affairs of the Conference according to the Constitution and By-Laws. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Combined Council and meetings of the Executive Committee. In consultation with the Athletic Commissioner, the Chairman shall prepare the agenda for the Combined Council. In all legal matters and public issues, the Chairman shall represent and speak for the concerns of the Conference. The Chairman shall designate a Principal to preside over all meetings in his absence.
- B. The Athletic Commissioner shall preside at all meetings of the Athletic Committee. The Commissioner is responsible for the operation of the Conference athletic activities. In conjunction with the Chairman, the Commissioner shall assist in preparing the agenda of meetings of the Combined Council. The Commissioner shall communicate other areas of concern to the Conference Chairman.
- C. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all funds of the Conference and shall pay all bills approved by the Conference.
- D. The Secretary shall keep records and minutes of all meetings of the Combined Council and be responsible for Conference correspondence. The Secretary will communicate in writing the minutes of meetings and other pertinent information with the athletic directors and principals of all member schools.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: MIAC Member Schools:

- A. All members schools shall hold membership in the MHSAA and abide by the rules and regulations of that organization.
- B. Member schools must sponsor an athletic program consisting of at least 7 of the varsity sports offered by the Conference. Schools must also offer 2 divisional sports per gender per year.
- C. Dues shall be determined for the coming year at the Second meeting of the Combined Council. They are payable by September 1.

- D. The Athletic Committee shall establish policies and procedures for the conduct of the Conference athletic program.

Section 2: Conference Structure

- A. The structure of the Conference shall be determined by the Combined Council.
- B. Requests by member schools for a change must be presented in writing to the Conference Secretary for consideration at the Second meeting of the Combined Council.

Section 3: Admission of New Members

- A. The MIAC is a league of member schools who value a common philosophy of educational athletics that visually exhibits learning, teamwork and sportsmanship in a positive environment. The conference shall be made up of schools who demonstrate these values. (Amendment approved March 15, 2017.)
- B. A school desiring membership must submit an application in writing to the Conference Secretary. A school applying for membership must sponsor an athletic program consisting of at least 7 of the varsity sports offered by the Conference. They must also offer 2 divisional sports per gender per school year.
- C. New applicants must hold membership in the MHSAA and agree to abide by all its rules and regulations. The school making application must express its commitment to accept the Constitution and By-Laws of the MIAC.
- D. New schools are admitted by a 3/4 vote of the member schools (6/8, 7/9, 8/10, 9/11, 9/12, 12/16) at a meeting of the Combined Council.
- E. A newly-admitted school will become active as soon as scheduling of athletic activities allows.

- F. Newly admitted schools will be on a probationary status for two years.
 - 1. The officers of the Combined Council will be responsible for conducting an annual evaluation of schools on probationary status.
 - 2. The results of these evaluations will be presented at a meeting of the Combined Council.

Section 4: Withdrawal from Membership

- A. A school desiring to withdraw its membership must file a written request for withdrawal with the Conference Secretary.
- B. The member school requesting withdrawal shall retain full Conference standing and receive all earned awards while completing the required schedules.

Section 5: Discipline of Member Schools

- A. When a serious problem or dispute arises between member schools, or when a violation of Conference or MHSAA rules or regulations occurs, it shall be reported in writing to the school or schools involved, to the Conference Chairman, Secretary, and to the Athletic Commissioner.
 - 1. The Principal of the accused school shall investigate the matter thoroughly and report the findings to the other school or schools involved.
 - 2. If the matter can be satisfactorily resolved between the schools, a report will be submitted in writing to the Principals of all member schools, the Conference Chairman, Secretary, and the Athletic Commissioner. It shall be reported at the next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Conference.
- B. If a complaint or dispute cannot be resolved, the complaints, charges, and responses of the involved schools shall be put in writing and sent within ten (10) school days to the Conference Chairman, Secretary, and Athletic Commissioner.
 - 1. The Conference Chairman shall call a special meeting of the Conference schools within one week of receiving the written reports.

2. A hearing before the Executive Committee may be requested by the school being charged prior to the meeting of the Combined Council.
- C. A member school may be censured, suspended, placed on probation, or dismissed from the Conference. All such decisions shall require the vote of a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of the member schools at a meeting of the Combined Council.

ARTICLE V – AMENDMENTS

- A. A written proposal to amend the Constitution or By-Laws of the Conference shall be submitted by a member school to the Secretary at least three weeks prior to a regularly scheduled meeting of the Combined Council. The Secretary will distribute the proposal to all member schools prior to the meeting of the Combined Council.
- B. The amendment will be adopted when a three-fourths majority (6/8, 7/9, 8/10, 9/11, 9/12, 12/16) of the member schools vote in favor. All such changes shall take place at a meeting of the Combined Council.

05/11/89 Adopted by the Combined Council of MIAC