

# **Mountain Football League By-Laws**

## **Updated 4/19/21**



### **What is Mountain Football League?**

The Mountain Athletic Conference Football League (Known as Mountain Football League hereinafter referred to as MFL or MAC) is a 501(c)(3) organization that's sole purpose is to provide young athletes with an opportunity to participate in recreational a football and/or cheerleading program. The league encompasses like minded agencies within the mountain region in the state of Georgia.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

To provide youth, through fair competition, the opportunity to participate in competitive recreational football and cheerleading with teams from communities throughout North Georgia. Member agencies and associations emphasize teaching fundamentals, athlete development, safety, fun, and sportsmanship for their athletes, coaches, and parents.

### **Article I – Liability**

1. The MFL Board of Officers, Representatives, Coaches, Trainers, Officials, Associations, Agencies, or Supervisory or participating personnel are not responsible for personal injuries or damage to property at any MFL sanctioned function.
2. All Agencies, Associations, and participating individuals such as cheerleaders, coaches, officials, parents, spectators, etc., participate at their own risk and shall not hold the MFL or any of its members responsible for any personal injuries or damage to property.

### **Article II – Membership**

Members consist of the Agencies and Associations that comprise the MAC Football League in the year 2021: Chestatee, Copper Basin, Dawson County, Fannin County, Gilmer County, Lumpkin County, Pickens County Union County and White County.

1. Any additional Agency or Association desiring membership in the MAC Football League must meet the following criteria.
  - a. An Agency or Association must submit a letter of application containing the name of the Agency or Association and stating the following:
    - i. Agency:

1. List containing the Recreation Director, Athletic Director and any other athletic staff's name that may be involved in MFL, phone numbers, email addresses, and mailing addresses.
    2. A list of recreation board members if available with phone numbers, emails addresses, and mailing addresses.
    3. Number of teams it expects in each age group.
  - ii. Association:
    1. List of Board Members or officers including telephone numbers, email addresses, and mailing addresses.
    2. Number of teams anticipated in each age group
  - b. A Representative from the applying Agency or Association must present the Letter of Application at a MFL meeting and subsequently answer any questions from the member Agencies and/or Associations present.
  - c. Approval for membership shall require a majority of the MFL voting membership.
    - i. Every Agency/Association must vote either in person or by proxy.
2. The MFL reserves the right to revoke any Agency's or Association's membership with or without cause by a two-thirds majority of the MFL voting membership.
    - a. Every Agency/Association must vote either in person or by proxy.

### **Article III – Membership Requirements**

1. All teams fielded by a member Agency or Association must be entered in the MFL.
  - a. Exception: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade League
    - i. 7<sup>th</sup> Grade League may seek games outside of the MFL if it is decided that there are not enough teams to make a viable league.
      1. This will be decided on a seasonal basis.
2. Each Agency or Association must designate and present, in writing, a list of not more than three MFL Representatives to attend MFL meetings and/or events.
  - a. Each Agency or Association will get only one vote, regardless of the number of representatives.
  - b. A minimum of one Representative from each Agency or Association must attend each MFL meeting.
  - c. Should Representative miss a meeting, the Representative is responsible for contacting a MFL board member for information pertaining to the missed meeting.

#### **Article IV – Executive Board**

1. The MFL Executive Board shall be made up of a three-member panel. Those positions along with a brief description are as follows:
  - a. President
  - b. Vice-President of Administration
  - c. Vice-President of Finance
2. Those serving on the Executive Board, including the President, are to be elected by a simple majority vote.
  - a. All member Agencies or Associations in good standing shall have one vote for each position of President and Vice-President Positions.
    - i. The President position will be elected every 24 months or as necessary in the event of a vacant position.
      1. The President may be voted out of service by a two-third majority vote.
    - ii. Vice-President Position(s) will be elected every 24 months or as necessary in the event of a vacated position(s).
      1. The Vice-President may be voted out of service by a two-third majority vote.

#### **Article V – Executive Board Member Duties**

1. President
  - a. The President will serve in the day to day operations of the MFL.
  - b. Specific duties include but are not limited to:
    - i. Constructing the annual MFL game schedule, notifying members of meetings, coordinating direction of officials, coordinating web site management, coordinating annual ordering of awards, meeting with prospective new members, working with and assisting all Vice-Presidents with their respective duties
    - ii. In collaboration with the VP of Administration - Develops policies and guidelines for enforcement of player eligibility, ensure all players and coaches league wide are legal based upon their respective rules, production and distribution of coaches' badges
    - iii. In collaboration with the VP of Administration - Develops and maintains the MFL website, social media, ensure all needed and necessary information is disseminated among member Agencies and Associations
    - iv. **The President has the authority to move any meeting to a closed executive session. ( New For 2021 Season)**

2. Vice-President of Administration

a. Specific duties include but are not limited to:

- i. Responsible for assisting the President, presides in the absence of the president, acts as secretary for the MFL, maintains a register of members, records the minutes of meetings, is responsible for sending out notice of meetings, issues membership cards and maintains a record of league's activities.

3. Vice-President of Finance

a. Specific duties include but are not limited to:

- i. Developing a balanced budget for adoption by the MFL Executive Committee, handles the day to day fiduciary responsibilities, handles accounts payable and receivable, bonded for a minimum of \$10,000, produce monthly financial reports

## **Article VI – Voting**

1. **Any appeal made to the Executive Board must be approved by a simple majority vote of all agencies. ( New for 2021)**
2. The membership will vote on rule changes, policy changes, and By-Law changes.
  - a. Each Agency or Association will get only one vote, regardless of the number of representatives or size of the Agency or Association.
  - b. All Agencies/Associations must vote in person or by proxy on an issue presented for a vote.
3. Voting rights may be denied to any member Agency or Association when fees are not paid within thirty days from the due date and/or is not considered to be in good standing with the MFL.

## **Article VII – Spending**

1. Any expenditure in excess of one hundred dollars or a contract with a value in excess of one hundred dollars must be approved by the executive board.
  - a. If time is of the essence, approval may be obtained by email, text, and/or fax.
    - i. Record of these votes must be kept.

## Article VIII – Rule, Policy and/or By-law Changes

1. **Rule Changes/Rule Proposals will now take place in an Odd Number Year. EX 2021,2023,2025,2027,2029. A NFHS Rule change will supersede this exception. If agency request a Rule Change in even number year, they must present rule in front of the executive board. Executive Board must unanimously approve the change to be discussed in even number year meeting. ( New For 2021)**
2. The Rules, Policies and/or By-Laws of the MFL may be altered or changed at the February membership meeting with an exception to housekeeping items.
  - a. An item may be tabled and voted on at a later date if deemed so by the membership.
    - i. In this instance, a motion must be made, seconded and notated in the minutes.
  - b. A member of the Board may call for a special vote to change a By-Law(s) and/or Rule(s) outside of the prescribed time by:
    - i. A member of the Board must notify, in writing, the Executive Committee of the request.
    - ii. The Executive Committee must alert the entire Board and host a meeting for discussion.
      1. A quorum must be met to discuss the item(s).
    - iii. The Executive Committee must receive a majority vote to alter the By-Law(s) and/or Rule(s).
      1. Please note, the intent of this vote is for the Board to agree to make a change.
        - a. *The actual By-Law(s) and/or Rule(s) to be voted on will be presented on a different vote.*
      2. All voting requirements must be met. *See Article VI.*
    - iv. If a majority vote is not obtained, the item must wait until the prescribed time. *See Article VIII.*
      1. The same intended item may not be brought forth again in the same season if it fails to obtain a majority vote the first time.
    - v. If a majority vote has been obtained, the By-Law and/or Rule may then be presented.
      1. All voting requirements must be met. *See Article VI.*
3. For Rules, Policies and/or By-Laws to be altered or changed, the following procedure must be followed:

- a. MFL Rule, Policy and By-Law Change and Amendment form must be completed and received by the MFL President one week prior to the January membership meeting.
  - i. An item may be accepted from the floor upon the President's discretion.
- b. All changes will be presented at the January meeting. At which time, member Agencies or Associations will return to their constituents and discuss the items.
- c. All Rules, Policies and/or By-Laws to be altered will be voted on in the February meeting.
  - i. Any item tabled during the February meeting, may have a special meeting called in order for a vote to take place.
    1. All voting requirements must be met.
- d. Once all items for change are approved, Rules, Policies and/or By-Laws will be updated and distributed accordingly.

#### **New By-Laws for 2021 Season**

- **Rule Changes/Rule Proposals will now take place in an Odd Number Year. EX 2021,2023,2025,2027,2029. A NFHS Rule change will supersede this exception. If agency request a Rule Change in even number year, they must present rule in front of the executive board. Executive Board must unanimously approve the change to be discussed in even number year meeting.**
- **The league will now have the authority for all meeting to be proceeded into executive session.**
- **All votes for appeals will be made by agency with a simple majority.**

#### **Article IX – Meeting Dates and Schedule**

<u>1st Wednesday in December</u>	Meeting will be held to review past season, elect new officers, declare each Agency or Association Representative, and discuss any new Agencies or Associations that are seeking membership.
<u>2nd Wednesday in January</u>	Meeting will be held to discuss potential rule changes for upcoming season and any Agencies or Associations seeking membership.
<u>2nd Wednesday in February</u>	Meeting will be held to vote on rule and/or by-law

changes, add or deny new Agencies or Associations that are seeking membership into the MFL, and discuss officials for the upcoming season.

2nd Wednesday in May

Meeting will be held (if necessary) to discuss any amendments to upcoming season schedule, housekeeping items or other related issues.

2nd Wednesday in July

Meeting will be held to find out the number of teams competing in each age group throughout the MFL and determine playoff locations.

2nd or 3rd Wednesday in August

Rosters and Birth Certificates will be verified and turned into the Vice President of Eligibility and any issues will be discussed before the start of the season.

It is the responsibility and duty of the officers of the MFL to be good stewards of the organization's funds. As such, the MFL President, Vice-President of Administration, and Vice-President of Finance may appropriate funds as necessary under the previously stated guidelines. See Article VII.1. Appropriate is set forth to mean endorsing checks for accounts, opening/closing financial accounts, and any other items as deemed necessary in the function of the MFL. Furthermore, those aforementioned officers must be named, affiliation noted, position noted, and term accounted for each year in this Amendment 1 for record keeping purposes. For the purpose of updating this Amendment only and for the purpose of updating the aforementioned officer positions information only, a vote by the membership is not needed to amend or change the By-Laws pertaining to Amendment 1. This Amendment must be updated yearly after officer elections and installation have occurred. It necessary to note the following abbreviations will be used for record keeping purposes for this Amendment.

- P = President
- VPA = Vice-President of Administration
- VPF = Vice-President of Finance

### Record of Officer Positions

<u>Year</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
2017	P	Joey Carder	Dawson County
	VPA	Jeremy Sellers	Gilmer County
	VPF	Eddie O'Neal	Fannin County
2017	P	Joey Carder	Dawson County
	VPA	Tim Towe	Fannin County
	VPF	Eddie O'Neal	Fannin County
2019	P	Tim Towe	Fannin County
	VPA	Terry Plott	Union County
	VPF	Eddie Oneal	Fannin County
2021	P	Tim Towe	Fannin County
	VPA	Matt Payne	Dawson County
	VPF	Eddie O 'Neal	Fannin County
2023	P		
	VPA		
	VPF		