

Metro Volleyball Conference Bylaws

ARTICLE I

Name and Location

- Section 1 The name of this non-profit organization shall be the "Metro Volleyball Conference" hereafter referred to as Metro VBC or MVC.
- Section 2 The Metro VBC shall be located at the residence of the League Director.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

- Section 1 To foster and develop physical skills, sportsmanship, respect for authority, self-discipline, personal responsibility and courtesy to others among the youth attending member schools or member parish's religious education programs.
- Section 2 To provide an organization in order that the youth may participate in interscholastic competition in the sport of volleyball.

ARTICLE III

Membership

- Section 1 Membership shall be open to parochial schools that are fully committed to fulfilling the league's purpose.
- Section 2 Membership shall be open to private, parochial school/parish teams only.
- Section 3 New schools may apply in writing for membership into the Metro Volleyball Conference. Schools can only be expelled by a 2/3 majority of the executive board.

ARTICLE IV

Eligibility

- Section 1 Team members must be students in grades 4-8 attending the member school or registered parishioners actively involved in the Religious Education program of the member parish.
- Section 2 Team members must meet the following age requirements as of September 1st:
4th Grade: Under 11 years
5th Grade: Under 12 years
6th Grade: Under 13 years
7th Grade: Under 14 years
8th Grade: Under 15 years
- Section 3 Girls may not compete on boys' teams and boys may not compete on girls' teams.
- Section 4 No student may participate in the Metro Volleyball Conference without a document signed by the parent(s) or guardian(s) stating that: the student has permission to compete; the student is in good health and physical condition; the student is covered by insurance; and the parents(s) or guardian(s) understand the risks associated with participation in the volleyball program. No student may participate in the Metro Volleyball Conference without documentation that the student has had a physical examination by a licensed physician within the past two years. Members must keep parental permission documents and evidence of physical examination on file and immediately produce these if requested by the Executive Board.
- Section 5 Any merger request must be submitted in writing to the League Director as soon as possible but no later than 7 days after the final team commitment date. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the League Director. The League Director/Board and Milwaukee Archdiocese must approve all mergers and may impose conditions that they believe are appropriate.

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- Section 6 Players can only be listed on one roster per sport for the season.
- Section 7 A student, with school/parish and parent approval, may participate in more than one school/parish-sponsored sport in the same season, for example cross country and volleyball in the fall. If a school/parish allows this, it must allow all students the opportunity, not just one or two, and it must work out how conflicts between practices and/or games will be resolved to avoid forfeits for either team. Refer to Metro Volleyball Conference Rules, Section 3E.
- Section 8 Only teams comprised of players representing a single school/parish and in existence as a team during the entire sport season are eligible to participate in any school or parish sponsored tournaments.
- Section 9 Each team must submit a team roster to the Metro Volleyball Conference one week before the start of the first match. The roster form provided by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee / Metro Volleyball Conference must be completed in its entirety and signed by the *sponsoring* school's coach, athletic director, AND their principal/pastor. Rosters including the names of players participating in the parish religious education program must also be signed by the parish Director of Religious Education. Teams shall not play, but will forfeit matches until completed rosters are submitted to the League Director. Refer to Metro Volleyball Conference Rules, section 3D.
- Section 10 After rosters have been submitted, players may be added only upon approval of the League Director. Upon approval, the member must submit documentation verifying eligibility to the Metro Volleyball Conference prior to the player participating in practice or any league play.
- Section 11 A parish/school entering more than one team in one grade must have an annual tryout to ensure the proper distribution of talent.
- 4, 5, & 6 grades: a parish/school which enters more than one team in one grade must divide the talent *equally* based on an annual tryout. Standings will be monitored by the League Board to ascertain equality of teams from the same parish/school.
- 7 & 8 grades: a parish/school which enters more than one team in one grade must divide the talent into an "A" team and "B" team(s). The "A" team must clearly have superior talent when compared to the "B" team(s). The division of talent must be based on the annual tryout and easily recognizable.
- The league will use its discretion to place a team in the "A" or "B" division using standings from the previous year. Teams may petition the Executive Board for exemption to Section 11.
- Section 12 All questions or appeals concerning player eligibility shall be directed to the League Director/Executive Board. The use of ineligible player(s) shall result in forfeiture of any games played with those player(s). Failure to comply with the roster requirements may result in forfeiture of games played until compliance is achieved. The Executive Board may impose additional penalties as deemed appropriate for violations of eligibility requirements.

ARTICLE V

General Rules

- Section 1 Members shall abide by the most recent policies of the Milwaukee Archdiocese and all Metro Volleyball Conference rules.

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- Section 2 Gym doors should be opened 45 minutes before the start of an event. This time frame allows adequate setup for concessions, admissions, and gym supervisors while maintaining a secure and supervised environment, aligning with safety and diocesan guidelines. (Refer to the *Archdiocese of Milwaukee Athletics Policy Manual*.)
- Section 3 Social media practices such as using social media apps, videotaping games, etc. are only allowed if they meet the Archdiocese *Social Media & Digital Communication Policy* found on the *Social Networking Policy* page of the Milwaukee Archdiocese website.
- Section 4 Playing time is to be determined as per the direction of the Milwaukee Archdiocese. Local administrators and athletic associations shall create policies that provide for participation by all team members in all league and tournament games including the Padre and the Seton. A game is defined as a match in volleyball, 4 quarters in basketball, etc. Refer to the *Archdiocese of Milwaukee Athletics Policy Manual*, 6145.2 Elementary School and Parish-Based Athletic Programs; "Practices and Games".
- Section 5 All gyms will have an adult gym supervisor(s), (age 21+), present on site and available in the gym at all times during all league play. Gym supervisors shall not have **ANY** other responsibilities including but not limited to scoring, admissions, concessions, etc. **The gym supervisor shall introduce themselves to the referee at the start of the referee's shift and be easily identifiable to spectators.** A fine and/or sanction may be levied on host gyms as determined by the Executive Board who do not have gym supervisors present at all league matches. This may include future loss in the number of school hosted league matches, loss in number of scheduled school home team games, etc.
- Gym supervisors are required to assist coaches and other adult supervisors, maintain order, and are responsible for the conduct and discipline of players and spectators alike. Any disturbance by spectators which disturbs the orderly running of a game may be cause for a gym or fieldhouse to be cleared of the spectator(s) until the games' completion. Penalties include, but are not limited to, ejection and forfeiture for continued violation of rules of conduct. A fine and/or sanction may be levied on the host gym by the Executive Board if order is not maintained.
- Gym supervisors shall report all fan, player, or coach ejections to the league director as soon as possible, but no later than the Monday after the weekend during which they occurred.
- Section 6 Adult supervision (age 21+) of locker rooms, showers and gyms, is mandatory. Only team members and authorized personnel are to be in the locker rooms. Per the WIAA, "WIAA Season Regulations and State Law (9175.22) prohibits use of cell phones (and other image-recording devices) in locker rooms except in emergency situations."
- Section 7 Host gyms are responsible for ensuring that facilities are available as scheduled and providing qualified adult supervision at all times to maintain order. Host gyms must supply both teams with a minimum of four balls each for warm up and a game ball for matches played at their gym. Game balls must be clearly labeled and used only for games. Game balls must meet WIAA regulations and have NFHS authenticating mark. Exception: Molten VB-U12 balls used for 4th and 5th grade boys, and 4th, 5th and 6th grade girls will not have the NFHS logo. Host schools must have a First Aid Kit available for all matches.
- **NOTE: Boys teams grades 6-8 will use the V5m5000-3NFHS Molten Flistatec stamped ball (red, white, blue) beginning with the 2027 season.**
- Section 8 Metro Volleyball Conference does not provide insurance to cover its members. Parishes must provide insurance to cover players and spectators under all conditions.

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- Section 9 Games will not be rescheduled once the final schedule is out. Requests for changes due to special, unforeseen circumstances may be submitted to the League Director and are subject to approval at his/her discretion. This should be done as soon as possible, at least one week or more before the originally scheduled game. Both schools must confirm in writing an agreement to the rescheduling when the request is submitted. A \$40.00 fee for payment of referees will be incurred by the schools rescheduling, the team initiating the rescheduling being responsible for the fee.
- Section 10 Any team forfeiting a League match shall be assessed a \$25.00 fee for the first instance, \$50.00 for the second forfeit, and \$100.00 for each additional forfeiture thereafter for the duration of the season. Fees are due upon completion of the season. Admittance to the Metro Volleyball Conference will be denied until all fees assessed have been paid.
- Section 11 All questions concerning rules and regulations shall be directed to the Metro Volleyball Conference Referee Coordinators. They will respond and/or if necessary, forward the questions to the League Director or Executive Board for discussion.
- Section 12 Any team dropping out after the dates specified in the registration information will not be refunded their entry fee. Any team dropping out after the schedules are done will be faced with sanctions. Any subsequent offenses will result in fines to be determined by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI Appeals

- Section 1 All appeals must be directed in writing to the League Director and Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII Executive Board

- Section 1 Management and administration of the affairs of the Metro Volleyball Conference shall be vested in the Executive Board. This board shall be composed of six to seven members endorsed by the member parishes.
- Section 2 The Metro Volleyball Conference League Director shall preside over all Executive Board meetings and all membership meetings. Vacancies in the Executive Board shall be filled by volunteers from the member teams and/or member parishes. If there are more volunteers than vacancies a vote by the Executive Board members will determine the committee members. The League Director shall act as the official Metro Volleyball Conference representative in any Archdiocesan matters.
- Section 3 The League Director or appointed treasurer shall manage all Metro Volleyball Conference funds which will be deposited in an account in the name of Metro Volleyball Conference. They shall keep an account of the receipts and expenditures of Metro Volleyball Conference and submit a complete report annually or upon the request of the Executive Board. They shall also determine and collect all Metro Volleyball Conference fees subject to the approval of the Executive Board. In absence of the League Director, the Executive Board will determine who shall assume the duties of the League Director.
- Section 4 Minutes of all meetings will be taken and distributed to all Executive Board members.
- Section 5 The League Director shall be responsible for overseeing the scheduling of games and maintaining team rosters. The Referee Coordinator(s) shall be responsible for recommending Metro Volleyball Conference rules for volleyball and scheduling referees. Rule changes will be reviewed by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII Meetings

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Section 1 There will be a minimum of one meeting of the member parishes. Additional meetings may be added if necessary. The dates of all Metro Volleyball Conference meetings will be set by the League Director with at least ten days advance notice.

Section 2 The Executive Board will meet a minimum of two times per year and all minutes of these meetings will be available for review upon request of the League Director.

ARTICLE IX Dues

Section 1 Member parishes shall pay annual dues. The amount of these dues will be determined by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE X Parliamentary Authority

Section 1 The rules contained in RULES OF ORDER shall be the parliamentary authority of the Metro Volleyball Conference in all matters where they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these by-laws.

ARTICLE XI Amendments

Section 1 These by-laws may be amended at any meeting of the Executive Board by 2/3 affirmative vote of the Board.