

CONSTITUTION OF THE MIDWEST CONFERENCE

ARTICLE I

The name of the constitution shall be the Midwest Conference.

ARTICLE II

The purpose of this conference shall be to encourage member schools to take an active part in all desirable school activities, to stimulate good public relations between the school and communities, and to promote good sportsmanship. This constitution is to govern both boys' and girls' sports.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. The following schools shall be charter members: Brook, Brookston, Camden, Fowler, Kentland, Monon, Royal Center, and Wolcott.

Section 2. Membership shall be limited to ten schools.

Section 3. Schools desiring membership must take a written application to the President of the conference. Such requests are to be considered at the first stated meeting following receipt of application. Approval for acceptance must be by a 3/4 majority vote.

Section 4. All member schools shall be members in good standing of the IHSAA.

Section 5. A school may be dropped from membership for cause by a 3/4 vote of the members.

Section 6. A newly accepted school will serve a probationary period of one year starting from date of acceptance.

ARTICLE VI

The officers are the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Their terms shall be for one year with no direct line of succession. (The secretary's pay was established during May of 1996 at \$500 with it being a permanent position - to be paid at the May meeting). Officers shall be elected by vote at the spring meeting each year. New officers will assume their duties at the conclusion of the first annual meeting in September.

ARTICLE V

Section 1. There shall be four stated meetings each year, the meetings will be held on the second Wednesdays of September and March, and the first Wednesdays of November and May.

Section 2. There shall be a fall banquet meeting the 4th Tuesday in August of each year. Last 2 years (1996 & 1997) held on first Monday in November.

Section 3. The President shall call special meetings if necessary.

Section 4. Each school shall be represented by the Principal, Athletic Director, or a representative appointed by the Principal.

Section 5. There shall be AD meetings in October, November, December, January, February, April, and May.

ARTICLE VI

Each member shall be assessed a sum as voted by a majority of the membership for annual dues at the first conference meeting of each school year. Dues shall be paid by October 1 each year. By a 3/4 vote, a special fee may be levied when there is a need. The awards for sports and general expenses will be taken from the annual dues.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments to this constitution may be made by a 3/4 vote of the members. Voting shall take place at the next stated meeting following the official presentation of the proposed amendment.

ARTICLE VIII

Bylaws may be changed at any called meeting by 3/4 vote of the members.

ARTICLE IX

If, by higher authority, (i.e., courts, or IHSAA) two schools are restricted from playing each other, the championship and standings shall be decided on a percentage basis.

ARTICLE X

Non-athletic competition shall be encouraged by the conference.

BYLAWS OF THE MIDWEST CONFERENCE

Section 1. The rank of schools in each sport shall be determined as follows: (a) Where round-robin is used, the percentage of games won: (b) Where conference meets are used, the rank finished in meet shall be used.

<u>Round Robin</u>	<u>Tourney</u>	<u>Double Round Robin</u>
Football	Girls Golf	Baseball
Boys Basketball	Boys Cross Country	
Girls Basketball	Girls Cross Country	
Volleyball	Wrestling	
Softball	Boys Track	
	Girls Track	
	Boys Golf	

Section 2. Each school must play all conference schools to be eligible for the championship in that sport. This may be waived by an amendment to cover special circumstances.

Section 3. When applicable, if more than one contest is scheduled between two conference schools, only the results of the first will count toward conference standings. If both schools agree and they notify the President in writing, prior to the season, the second game may be designated as the Conference game.

Section 4. Team championships will be awarded a trophy. Multiple trophies will be awarded in case of ties. Individual medals shall be awarded according to the provisions in Appendix A.

Section 5. The school having earned the highest total of points in all events shall be awarded the conference All Sports Championship Trophy. The presentation will be made at the

conference Fall Banquet. Champions in each sport will be awarded a number of points equal to the number of schools in the conference. Subsequent positions will be awarded one less point for each position.

Section 6. All conference teams shall be selected according to the provisions in Appendix A.

Section 7. Any school under violation of IHSAA constitution and bylaws shall not be eligible for a championship during that season.

Section 8. Conference meets to determine rank shall be conducted according to IHSAA Sectional rule. (a) Alternate dates will be established for all tournaments. Baseball canceled on Saturday must be made up on Monday or the 1st available date. If the wrestling conference meet is canceled in will be made up on the following Monday .

Section 9. Conference sports to be considered for championships shall be as follows: (See Appendix C)

Section 10. A double round robin baseball schedule will be held starting with the 1998 season.

Section 11. In case of forfeits within the conference the school involved can appeal to the conference and each situation will be reviewed on an individual basis for consideration of athlete awards etc.

Section 12. Traveling Trophies:

A. Midwest Conference Boys Basketball traveling trophy will be awarded as follows: The "pig" symbolic of "Bringing Home the Bacon", will change hands any time conference play each other in a regularly scheduled basketball game. The trophy going to the victor. It cannot be retired.

B. Midwest Conference Football traveling trophy will be awarded as follows: The "Bull" symbolic of "The Build of the Team" will change hands any time conference schools play each other in a regularly scheduled football game. The trophy going to the victor. It cannot be retired.

C. Midwest Conference Girls Basketball traveling trophy will be awarded as follows: The "bucket" symbolic of "The Winning Bucket", will change hands any time conference schools play each other in a regularly scheduled basketball game. The trophy going to the victor. It cannot be retired.

D. Midwest Conference Volleyball traveling trophy will be awarded as follows: The "Spike" symbolic of "Driving home a victory", will change hands any time conference schools play each other in a regularly scheduled volleyball game. The trophy going to the victor. It cannot be retired.

Section 14. Sportsmanship Certificates - A sportsmanship certificate will be presented to a boy and a girl from each school at the end of the year. These are chosen by each individual school.

APPENDIX A

Midwest Conference Awards

Boys's Division

Cross Country - Conference Champion Trophy

Medals 1-10 – All Conference 11-15 – Honorable Mention

Ribbons 11-25

Football - Conference Champion Trophy

All Conference Team Medals (28)

Wrestling - Conference Champion Trophy

Medals for first in each weight class

Ribbons for 2-3-4 in each class

Basketball - Conference Champion Trophy (Varsity)

Medals All Conference Teams (12)

Track - Conference Champion Trophy

Medals for first

Ribbons for 2-6 places

Golf - Conference Champion Trophy

Medals 8 minimum (number of teams entered = number of all conference)

Baseball - Conference Champion Trophy

All Conference Team (18)

Midwest Conference Awards
Girls Division

Cross Country - Conference Champions Trophy

Medals 1-10

Ribbons 11-25

Golf - Conference Champions Trophy

Medals 8 minimum (number of teams entered = number of all conference)

Volleyball - Conference Champions Trophy

Medals All Conference (14)

Basketball - Conference Champions Trophy

Medals All Conference Team (12)

Track - Conference Champion Trophy

Medals for first

Ribbons for 2-6 Places

Softball - Conference Champions Trophy

All Conference Team Medals (18)

Girl's and Boy's All Sports Trophy:

An All Sports Trophy to be presented to the school accumulating the greatest number of points through the conference standings for the sports officially sponsored by the conference. Points are assigned according to the number of schools in the conference. First place is awarded the same number of points as there are schools in the conference with each place below the points being decreased by one. In case of ties the places are combined and divided individually.

ACADEMIC DIVISION

MATHEMATICS - Trophies:

Conference Champion Trophy
Traveling Trophy- cannot be retired

Certificates

Certificate for 1st Place School in each category
(Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Calculus, Comprehensive)

Medal:

1st Place individual in each category

Ribbons:

2nd through 10th place in each category
\$50.00 to coordinator

Writing -

Trophies:

Conference Champions Trophy

Certificates

Certificate for 1st Place School in each category
(Senior Exposition, Junior Exposition, Senior Short Story,
Junior Short Story, Senior Poetry, Junior Poetry, Senior
Challenge)

Medals:

1st place individual in each category

Ribbons:

2nd-10th place in each category
\$50.00 to coordinator

MWC SELECTION MEETING GUIDELINES

This information should be read aloud by the presider at the beginning of each Mid West Conference Selection meeting.

A player, who is nominated and selected here today to represent the Mid West Conference, should:

- 1) Exhibit outstanding skill in this sport.
- 2) Provide positive leadership for your team.
- 3) Have the kind of character and exhibit the kind of moral and ethical behavior to be a positive representative of your school and the T.R.C.
- 4) All nominations must be certified by AD and/or Principal.
- 5) Coach or representative must be present at selection meeting in order for an athlete to be selected to all conference teams.

At this meeting, coaches are reminded that:

- 1) The purpose of an all conference meeting is to select the best representatives of the Mid West Conference.
- 2) You have a responsibility to vote for the best players regardless of your desire to have one of your own players make this team.
- 3) You are asked to keep coach's personalities, personal likes and dislikes, and past grudges from affecting your votes in this process.
- 4) If you have a question about a player's statistics, character, or position, you should feel free to ask that player's coach prior to any votes being cast. Stat's will be based on the entire season – not just MWC stats.

After this meeting, coaches are reminded that:

- 1) The process is not perfect and there will always be differences of opinions with regards to identifying the best players and the most worthy players for all-conference honors.
- 2) This is a secret ballot and the results of those ballots are not open to interpretation or discussion outside the meeting.
- 3) You have an obligation to support the Mid West Conference and this process of selecting all conference teams.
- 4) You are not expected to publicly air your negative thoughts or concerns about another coach, another school, another player, the selection process, or the Mid West Conference.

ALL CONFERENCE SELECTION PROCEDURE

Boys' Division

I. CROSS COUNTRY

- A. All conference team will be the first ten runners to finish the conference meet. Places 11-15 are named Honorable Mention
- B. First place runner will be designated the MWC runner of the year.
- C. Coaches will vote at conference meet for coach of the year.

II. FOOTBALL

1. The team shall consist of:

- A. Offense: Five (5) down lineman, one (1) tight end, five (5) backs and two (2) wide receivers.
- B. Defense: Five (5) lineman, four (4) backs and four (4) linebackers.
- C. Specialist: Two (2)

Method of Determining All-Conference Team - Nomination Process.

- A. Each member coach will nominate deserving players from the school.
- B. Following nominations, each coach will comment on the merits of their players to be voted on in the election.

Voting Procedure

- A. Each Coach will be allowed one (1) vote for each of the positions from the group of players nominated.
- B. Coaches are not allowed to vote for their own players.
- C. Players can only be selected to one position.
- D. Honorable Mention Status - Any player that receives at least one (1) vote in a balloting for an ALL-Conference position shall be listed as Honorable Mention
- E. Coaches will nominate player for player of the year and coaches will receive one vote each.
- F. Coaches will also vote for coach of the year to conclude selection meeting

III. WRESTLING

- A. All conference team will be the first place winners in each weight class in the conference meet. Honorable Mention will be the runner-up in each wt. class.
- B. All conference champions will all be nominated for wrestler of the year. Coaches will vote following the meet to determine winner.
- C. Coaches will also vote for coach of the year at conclusion of meet.

IV. BASKETBALL

1. Team will consist of twelve (12) players.

Method of Determining All-Conference Team - Nomination Process.

- A. Each member coach will nominate deserving players from the school.
- B. Following nominations, each coach will comment on the merits of their players to be voted on in the election.

Voting Procedure

- A. Each Coach will be allowed to vote for the top eight (8) players from the group of players nominated.
- B. Coaches are not allowed to vote for their own players.
- C. After the top eight (8) are selected. Coaches will re-nominate and vote again for four (4) players from the re-nominated players to complete the all conference team.
- D. All ties for the final spot will also be determined all conference.
- E. The top six (6) vote receivers will then be submitted for a player of the year vote. Each coach will then get one vote for player of the year.
- F. Honorable Mention Status - Any player that receives at least one (1) vote in a balloting for an ALL-Conference position shall be listed as Honorable Mention.

V. TRACK AND FIELD

- A. All conference team will be the individual runners who place first in an event and/or on a winning relay team in the conference meet. Honorable Mention Will be the athlete in the runner-up position.
- B. The athlete that scores the most meet points will earn the track athlete of the year award.
- C. Coaches will also vote for coach of the year at conclusion of meet.

VI. GOLF

- A. All conference team will consist of a minimum of the top eight scores in the conference meet. The actual number of all conference selections will be based on the number of teams entered in the field (ie. 5 teams participating in conference meet = top 5 scores as all conference). All ties for the final spot will also be determined all conference. Ties will be broken by play offs using sudden death elimination for medalist only.
- B. Honorable mention will be athletes through 10th place.
- C. The medalist will be designated the MWC golfer of the year.
- D. Coaches will vote at conclusion of conference meet for coach of the year.

VII. BASEBALL

1. The team shall consist of six (6) infielders/catchers, five (5) outfielders, four (4) pitchers, plus three (3) additional at-large players. (18 total)

Method of Determining All-Conference Team - Nomination Process.

- A. Each member coach will nominate deserving players from the school.
- B. Following nominations, each coach will comment on the merits of their players to be voted on in the election.

Voting Procedure

- A. Each Coach will be allowed one (1) vote for each of the positions from the group of players nominated.
- B. Coaches are not allowed to vote for their own players.
- C. Honorable Mention Status - Any player that receives at least one (1) vote in a balloting for an ALL-Conference position shall be listed as Honorable Mention.

VIII. The conference champions in cross country, golf, wrestling, and track to be determined in each sport by a single conference meet or tourney made available to all conference schools.

IX. The conference champions in football, basketball, and baseball will be determined in each sport by round robin play with baseball being double round robin.

X. The conference shall at or near completion of each sport season, recognize boys and girls, who exemplify the term student-athlete, with the naming of an ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM.

GIRLS' DIVISION

I. CROSS COUNTRY

- A. All conference team will be the first ten runners to finish the conference meet. Honorable mention 11-15 places.
- B. First place runner will be designated the MWC runner of the year.
- C. Coaches will vote at conference meet for coach of the year.

II. GOLF

- A. All conference team will consist of a minimum of the top eight scores in the conference meet. The actual number of all conference selections will be based

on the number of teams entered in the field (ie. 5 teams participating in conference meet = top 5 scores as all conference). All ties for the final spot will also be determined all conference. Ties will be broken by play offs using sudden death elimination for medalist only.

- B. Honorable Mention through 10th place.
- C. The medalist will be designated the MWC golfer of the year.
- D. Coaches will vote at conclusion of conference meet for coach of the year.

III. VOLLEYBALL

1. Team will consist of Fourteen (14) players.

Method of Determining All-Conference Team - Nomination Process.

- A. Each member coach will nominate deserving players from the school.
- B. Following nominations, each coach will comment on the merits of their players to be voted on in the election.

Voting Procedure

- A. Each Coach will be allowed to vote for the top eight (8) players from the group of players nominated.
- B. Coaches are not allowed to vote for their own players.
- C. After the top eight (8) are selected. Coaches will re-nominate and vote again for six (6) players from the re-nominated players to complete the all conference team.
- D. All ties for the final spot will also be determined all conference.
- E. The top six (6) vote receivers will then be submitted for a player of the year vote. Each coach will then get one vote for player of the year.
- F. Honorable Mention Status - Any player that receives at least one (1) vote in a balloting for an ALL-Conference position shall be listed as Honorable Mention.

IV. BASKETBALL

1. Team will consist of twelve (12) players.

Method of Determining All-Conference Team - Nomination Process.

- A. Each member coach will nominate deserving players from the school.
- B. Following nominations, each coach will comment on the merits of their players to be voted on in the election.

Voting Procedure

- A. Each Coach will be allowed to vote for the top eight (8) players from the group of players nominated.
- B. Coaches are not allowed to vote for their own players.

- C. After the top eight (8) are selected. Coaches will re-nominate and vote again for four (4) players from the re-nominated players to complete the all conference team.
- D. All ties for the final spot will also be determined all conference.
- E. The top six (6) vote receivers will then be submitted for a player of the year vote. Each coach will then get one vote for player of the year.
- F. Honorable Mention Status - Any player that receives at least one (1) vote in a balloting for an ALL-Conference position shall be listed as Honorable Mention.

V. TRACK AND FIELD

- A. All conference team will be the individual runners who place first in an event and/or on a winning relay team in the conference meet. Honorable Mention will be the runner-up in each event.
- B. The athlete that scores the most meet points will earn the track athlete of the year award.
- C. Coaches will also vote for coach of the year at conclusion of meet.

VI. SOFTBALL

1. The team shall consist of six (6) infielders/catchers, five (5) outfielders, four (4) pitchers, plus three (3) additional at-large players. (18 total)

Method of Determining All-Conference Team - Nomination Process.

- A. Each member coach will nominate deserving players from the school.
- B. Following nominations, each coach will comment on the merits of their players to be voted on in the election.

Voting Procedure

- A. Each Coach will be allowed one (1) vote for each of the positions from the group of players nominated.
- B. Coaches are not allowed to vote for their own players.
- C. Honorable Mention Status - Any player that receives at least one (1) vote in a balloting for an ALL-Conference position shall be listed as Honorable Mention.

VII. The conference champion in cross country, golf, and track to be determined by a single conference track meet or tourney made available to conference schools.

VIII. The conference champions in volleyball, basketball, and softball will be determined in each sport event by round robin play.

IX. The conference shall at or near completion of each sport season, recognize boys and girls, who exemplify the term student-athlete, with the naming of an **ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM**.

MID WEST CONFERENCE
ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM
NOMINATION FORM

This nomination form must be completed and returned to Athletic Director one week prior to MWC All Conference selection meeting. Athletic Director and or Principal will certify nominations by signing form. The Athletic Director is responsible for submitting approved nomination form to conference secretary prior to selection meeting.

MWC School: _____ Sport: _____

NAME / GRADE

POSITION

- | | |
|-----------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ |
| 5. _____ | _____ |
| 6. _____ | _____ |
| 7. _____ | _____ |
| 8. _____ | _____ |
| 9. _____ | _____ |
| 10. _____ | _____ |

Coach

Athletic Director

Principal

Date

ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM
NOMINATION FORM

This nomination form must be completed and returned to Athletic Director one week prior to MWC All Conference selection meeting. Athletic Director and or Principal will certify nominations by signing form. The Athletic Director is responsible for submitting approved nomination form to conference secretary prior to selection meeting.

CRITERIA

1. Must be a junior or senior on an IHSAA varsity team sponsored by MWC.
2. Must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 on 4.0 or equivalent
3. Rank in the top 25% of their class.

MWC SCHOOL: _____

<u>NAME / SPORT</u>	<u>GRADE / GPA / CLASS RANK</u>
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____
7. _____	_____
8. _____	_____
9. _____	_____
10. _____	_____
_____	_____
Coach	Athletic Director
_____	_____

Principal

Date

APPENDIX "C"

MIDWEST CONFERENCE SPORTS

Boys

Cross Country
Football
Wrestling
Basketball
Track & Field
Golf
Baseball

Girls

Cross Country
Golf
Volleyball
Basketball
Track & Field
Softball

Section 1. Additional sports may be considered whenever one half of the member schools recognize a sport as part of their program. A majority vote will be required to add a sport to the conference.

APPENDIX "D"

COACH/PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

- I. Coach/Player of the year will be selected in all conference sports, both boys and girls.
- II. All round robin sports (volleyball, football, basketball, baseball, softball), the player/coach of the year shall be selected by all coaches .
- III. All meet sports (cross country, wrestling, track, and golf), the player/coach of the year shall be selected by the coaches at the conclusion of the conference meet unless otherwise noted in selection process. This selection shall be handled by the host principal or athletic director.
- IV. Each school is responsible for providing an acceptable award for their coach or athlete if they are selected as coach or player of the year.

APPENDIX "E"

GUIDELINES FOR RUNNING TOURNAMENTS AND MEETS

- I. Coaches coaching in a tournament should not be tournament directors of that tournament.
- II. Tournament directors and/or tournament officials should represent the conference and

should make final decisions (voting of coaches concerning rules should not be allowed during tournaments).

- III. Coaches should be encouraged to coach and not get involved in administrative decisions concerning the running of athletic contests.
- I. Tournament directors should notify principals (or conference president) whose coaches have displayed improper conduct.
- V. Schools on different times should be given consideration on scheduling of times activities are played.

APPENDIX "F"

6TH GRADE BOYS/GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

- I. No pressing the ball until the last 2 minutes of each half.
- II. First team in each bracket will be home team and wear light color.
- III. 6 minute quarters with 10 minute halves and 15 minutes between games / or determined by host school.
- IV. No zone defenses will be allowed.
- V. Girls sized basketballs will be used for tournament.
- VI. No three pointers will count.

APPENDIX "G"

BASEBALL

- I. Pitchers are limited to 10 total innings pitched in the two game series. It will be the coach's discretion to use a pitcher as a starter or relief appearance.
- II. Every effort should be made by conference member schools to schedule games as Saturday Doubleheaders. When this is not possible, the two game series will be scheduled as the Athletic Directors and Principals of the competing schools determine.
- III. Host site is always home in all games.
- IV. In the event that a Doubleheader is called, both games must be rescheduled. If one game is called, it will be a suspended game and will be played from the point of suspension prior to the playing of game two. Any game 1 games that are suspended must be continued from point of delay. 5 innings is not a game. If in the event a game starts and the first inning is not completed it will start all over. In the event that only game two is called, game two will only be a suspended game if it has not reached the point where it has become a regulation game. Once game two has reached the point of regulation contest and is called, the result at that time will be final.

APPENDIX “H”

WRESTLING SEEDING MEETING

I. Ordered Seeding Wrestler Criteria

- A. Head to Head Competition
- B. Record against “Common Opponent”
- C. A returning Champion or runner-up in the same weight class
- D. A contestant with an exceptional record against acknowledged strong Opposition. ****see criteria five****
- E. A contestant with the best overall record, based upon winning percentage.
(Team representative should consider number four if the winning percentage is based upon forfeits and not actual mat time.)

II. Midwest Conference pairings and seedings will be made at the designated time on the Monday preceding the Conference tournament at the host school.

1. Each conference school rep shall designate by name and record, the intended contestant for each weight class. Alternates will be considered any who meet the adopted STATE criteria for that weight class.
2. Each conference school will have at least one rep at the meeting. Lot will draw contestants without representation. (non-represented contestants will not be able to compare “common opponent” criterion, even though overall record may have been supplied)
3. No more than four contestants will be seeded. When there are less than four contestants, two shall be seeded.
 - a. Representatives may refuse the third and fourth seed, electing to allow Lot to place the contestant.
 - b. Representatives may choose to replace a potential contestant in each weight class **one time** before that class draw. Representatives must declare wishes to resubmit, before the draw. If more than one representative declares, the order of submission shall be determined by “Lot” using the school’s first letter as identification.
(i.e. C=1 F=2 NW=3 P=4 etc.)
4. Once “...seeded wrestlers have been placed, and byes ‘...drawn, so (that) they are evenly distributed throughout the bracket’ forfeits will be located

and remaining contestants shall be placed by draw”.

5. The pairings shall be final and will not be redrawn once LOT has determined their position.
6. If it becomes necessary to replace a seeded contestant after the conclusion of the “Seeding Meeting” the following procedures shall be implemented:
 - A. If the “one” seed must be replaced, the “two” seed moves to the one spot, And the alternate for one will be placed into two’s seeded position.
 - B. If it becomes necessary to replace both one and two, the alternates for each position will replace their respective positions on the bracket. If no qualified alternate is available, a forfeit shall be entered.