



2021

Football and Drill Team

Rules and Regulations

*These rules and regulations are intended as a set of guidelines for all football and drill team participants. Any and all interpretations or disputes will be resolved by the League Executive Board and all decisions **will be final**.*

OFFICIAL NOTICE

**To: ALL Coaches, Directors, Staff Members, Parents
within the Mesquite Pee Wee Football Association**

Due to recent happenings and unfortunate actions that have occurred at our organized events, those of which have caused discord and disruption at the football games and fields, let this serve as your official notification and warning of any future misconduct penalties that will be issued.

Drinking of Alcohol:

All Mesquite football fields are **ALCOHOL FREE PARKS**. Therefore, **ALCOHOL BEVERAGE ARE STRICKLY PROHIBITED**. Suspensions and fines up to \$500 PER ORGANIZATION will be assessed for this MPWFA violation.

Running on Field:

Any parent or individuals will be suspended and will not be allowed on the field to watch their child, indefinitely.

Fighting:

Constitutes an automatic suspension. Fighting will not be allowed on City property.

Attacking Referees:

Will result in legal action, leading up to possible arrest onsite.

Belligerent and Profane Language:

All loud boisterous and belligerent language including cursing that will incite negativity at the fields will not be tolerated. Removals and suspensions will be issued.

The above rules have been discussed and are fully supported by:

1. Mesquite Parks and Recreation
2. Men and Women's Executive Board of Directors
3. The Mesquite Police Department
4. This memo has been shared with all MPWFA team presidents.
That will then share with all of their coaches, directors, organization staff members and parents.

As a reminder, we would like to encourage and stress that the Mesquite Pee Wee Football Association is for the children, allowing them an opportunity to play football, dance for the drill team and participate in a positive manner. We thank you for your continuous support of our organization.

Jessie Monroe, President MPWFA

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MPWFA

League Executive Board

2021 Men's Executive Board

Jessie Monroe -----President
Marcus Sanders-----Director
Matt Reinhart-----Treasurer
Lamon Wright-----North Zone VP
Matt Rinehart-----South Zone VP
Devon Davis-----Board Member
Anthony Anderson-----Statistician
Derrian Fields-----Secretary
Walter Mister-----Flag VP
Deshaun Ivy-----Board Member
Tiffany Sowel-----Board Member
Fount Rowel-----Advisor

2021 Women's Executive Board

Chelsea Myles -----President
China Fisher-----Director
Shaun Monroe-----Treasurer
Danielle Maddox-----Secretary
Erica Harris-----Cheer Liaison
Latonya Sellers-----Zone VP
Tasha Price-----Time Keeper
Kylie Webb-----Prop Inspector
Nina-----Board Member

SOCIAL MEDIA RULES

- Dishonorable content such as racial, ethnic, sexual, religious, personal, coordinated personal attacks (hate mongering or slanderous verbiage), and physically/intellectual disability slurs are NOT tolerated.
- MPWFA volunteers are not allowed to disclose information that are financial, operational and legal in nature, as well as any information that pertains to players, drill team members, and/or parents. Violators will be subject to disciplinary actions such as a 3-year ban or indefinite suspension.
- MPWFA reserves the right to demand posts violating the Code of Conduct be deleted. Anyone that does not comply in this instance will be suspended or banned from participating in any MPWFA activities for a period of 3-years or indefinitely.
- The authenticity of what MPWFA volunteers, coaches, directors, and parents post is important. Online posters should verify questionable content with credible sources BEFORE posting about it.
- MPWFA reserves the right to demand that any unlawful post be edited or amended for any misleading or inaccurate content depicted in posts.
- Principles of integrity, professionalism, privacy, and impartiality should be observed by all when posting online.
- It is important for MPWFA volunteers and/or parents to properly define their association with the publication, as they would do offline/in person.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

1. 1st Offense- automatic calendar year 1-year suspension.
2. 2nd Offense- automatic calendar year 3-year ban.
3. 3rd Offense- automatic lifetime ban.
4. Any offense performed by the same person regardless of offense type will be viewed as a concurrent offense.
5. After each disciplinary has been completed by the offender the offender must come before the board for review. The determination to reinstate an offender will be decided by the executive board after the offender has presented evidence of compliance.

SOCIAL MEDIA OUTLES INCLUDES BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Snapchat
- Field
- DFW Metroplex Sports (Facebook page)
- TikTok
- Instagram

2021 Rule Changes

FOOTBALL

1. No weight restrictions except skill position on levels “E”, “D”, and “C”.
2. No address restrictions.
3. Flag players can fire off.
4. A player can celebrate once he crosses the end zone for a touchdown (nothing excessive). Teams cannot come off the bench, if so, it will be a delay penalty.
5. On tackle, “E”, “D”, “C”, lineman must be in a three-point stance. ONLY levels “E” and “D” can just stand.
6. The home team head coach is responsible for picking up the football for their game from the concession stand (Exceptions between Flag and “E”). Flag coach will check the ball out and “E” coach is responsible for checking it back into the concession stand after each game, “D” and “C” head coach must check out game football from the concession stand and return it into the concession stand after each game. If the football is misplaced, the head coach for that “F”, “E”, “D”, “C” level is responsible for replacing it.
7. There are no dual certifications. (Meaning you can’t play in two leagues).

DRILL TEAM

1. Women’s board will aid in selection of judges for Zone and City competitions.
2. Performance uniforms may be any shade of team colors, up to and including neon.
 - They are allowed one (1) secondary color.
 - Example: Team colors are green, black, and yellow. They are allowed one additional color of their choosing, i.e., purple, orange, etc.
 - Pink is not an allowed secondary color.
 - Rainy days MUST be team colors.
3. During Zone and City competitions, sideline members may wear items with team names/logos on the FRONT ONLY.

Section I: League

1.1 Name:

This league shall be called, and referred to as, the Mesquite Pee Wee Football Association.

1.2 Organization:

The Board of Directors will consist of a representative from each registered team. Each team in good standing will be represented at the official board meetings and will have one vote in league business.

1.3 Quorum:

A Quorum shall consist of AT LEAST 50% of board members, in good standing, after all members have been notified of the date, time, and location of meeting.

1.4 Officers:

Officers will be elected no later than February 1st, for the upcoming season by the board of directors. It will consist of a president, director, secretary, treasurer, two (2) Zone vice-presidents, statistician and a league investigator.

- The president and director must have at least three (3) years of service as a head coach.
 - The League President nor Drill President is required to be a head coach or director for any organization.
 - The League President and Director must be from different organizations. This applies to the Drill President and Director, as well.
- In addition, the president must have served on the Executive Board at least one (1) year. All other officers must have at least one (1) year of service as a head coach.
- There will be no more than two (2) coaches from any one organization on the Executive Board.
- The Flag representative on the board must coach in the “F” Division of the duration of the season. If for any reason he ceases to coach in the division, he will be terminated from the board and another representative will be elected. The Zone vice-president for Flag will be voted on the Flag coaches only.
- One (1) advisor position may be appointed by the President on either the League or Drill board.
 - The advisor MUST be affiliated with an active organization within MPWFA.

1.5 Divisions:

The team will be divided into four (4) divisions, according to age. These divisions will be known as “C”/Seniors, “D”/Juniors, “E”/Sophomores, and “F”/Flag divisions.

1.6 **Conference:**

The Division will be further divided each year, as equally as possible into two (2) zones. Each Zone will consist of one (1) “C” Division Conference, one (1) “D” Division Conference, one (1) “E” Division Conference and one (1) “F” Division Conference.

- If there is a shortage of teams, these teams may group together to form one (1)/two (2) conference(s) with their respective divisions.

1.7 **Background Checks:**

The City of Mesquite requires any and all participating volunteers in direct contact with children to complete a League approved background check form.

- The completion of the application will be the responsibility of the head coach.
- All applicants must be approved prior to participating within any League activities. All staff members must be listed on the league-approved team roster.
- Head coaches and coaching staff members that work directly with football team must not be compensated as a football coach during any part of the calendar year.
- Any Coach and/directors, that work directly with the drill or football must not receive any related compensation. Head coaches and directors receiving any related compensation are defined and considered as paid professionals during any part of the calendar year. This is including but is not limited to team and studio owners.
- Assistant coaches, directors, assistant directors, instructors, and choreographers must present a written request to the Board for approval to work with a team or become a staff member if they receive compensation, but is not considered a professional for teaching football, drill, or dance. Failure to provide a written request may result in disciplinary action in accordance with section “Disciplinary Action”.

1.8 **Rules Changes:**

- Rule changes must be submitted to the Executive Board, which will be made up of one (1) representative/delegate from each organization, on or before March 1st of each year.
 - Any changes being submitted must be typed.
- Two (2) weeks later, a league meeting will be held at which time a typed version of all rule changes will be submitted to each representative and will be discussed.
 - There will be no amendments tabled after this rule change/league discussion and final approval from each delegate/representative recognized by the league with voting power.
- Before March 31st, each organization delegate/representative with their prospective organization will vote before the Executive Board for final approval or disapproval.
- All rule changes for that year must be made and voted on by the March 31st deadline.
- When voting, and in the case of more than one proposal to change an existing rule, vote on all proposals, the proposal which receives the most votes will then be voted against the existing rule.
- All accepted and approved rules will take effect April 1st.
- Rules will stand for one (1) year only.

1.9 **Representative Fines:**

- Each team that does not have a representative at each league meeting will be fined \$5.00. This fine will be doubled with each meeting missed.
- There will be no fine if the organization was not notified 48 hours before meeting. The team will have two (2) weeks to pay the fine.
 - If the fine is not paid, the Head Coach/Director will not be allowed to attend the teams next game. If he shows up at such game, he is subject to dismissal from the league.
- A Team's representative must be from their own organization and must notify the Executive Board that they are the team's representative, if other than the Head Coach, prior to the beginning of the league meeting.

Section II: Finances

2.1 **League:**

Cost incurred in league functions will be paid by with funds received from contributions, team registration fees, concession revenues and special assessments to teams. All costs incurred must be paid by league check. There will be **NO** petty cash fund.

2.2 **Teams:**

A player registration fee may be collected by each team to be used for team insurance, officiating fees, etc. Supplemental financing, as required, will be arranged by each team's respective organization. Each team, or its organization, must pay its debts. Failure to do so will be cause for dismissal of the team from the MPWFA.

- If a child, coach, drill director, and/or all assistance leave an organization while owing money or equipment to said organization, they will not be able to go to any other organization until the balance owed is paid and/or the equipment has been returned to the satisfaction of the organization and/or League Executive Board.

2.3 **Financial Statement:**

A financial statement will be furnished for the previous season to every association at the first league meeting of the new year. A set of books will be kept by the association which shows the money, from where it came, how spent or the current balance.

Section III: Registration

3.1 Player Registration:

Registration practices may vary due to circumstances beyond control. However, it is recommended that all candidates be registered at least one (1) week prior to commencement of practice so that collection of players fees, consent forms, or other required affidavits can be accomplished before workouts.

3.2 League Registrations:

Four (4) copies of the football team rosters listing the player's name, birthday, address, telephone number, and school attending will be submitted to MPWFA. All of these items (rosters/pictures/birth certificates/contract) have to be ready to submit to the league before the first game.

3.3 New Teams:

All applicants for new organizations will be admitted by majority of quorum of the Board of Directors. Upon receiving applications, the league will appoint a committee of three (3) men to investigate the organization and report on their findings before a vote is taken. New organizations must apply before June 1st.

3.4 Insurance Requirements:

Each team must submit a copy of their rosters to the insurance company. All kids will be covered by insurance, meaning football players, drill team, pep squads, cheerleaders, mascots, or any child participating in any MPWFA functions.

Section IV: Awards

4.1 Award Limit:

The award or any combination of awards presented to a participant in Mesquite Pee Wee Football Association shall not exceed those set forth by the Texas Interscholastic Rules.

Section V: Team Names and Jersey Colors:

- All name changes and jersey color changes will have to be approved by the Board of Directors.
- The team with "S" is designated to be the team that has seniority color of they are playing a team with the same jersey colors.
- If there is no seniority jersey color, the two Head Coaches will work out jersey colors for that game.
- If a team wears a jersey color not recognized by MPWFA as that team's color, without being approved by Executive Board, the team forfeits that game.
- Senior teams have choice of jersey color. If a conflict occurs, senior team must give one week notice to the opposing team.

Divisions “F”/Flag, “E”/Sophomore, “D”/Junior, “C”/Senior:

Team Name	Team Colors
Blue Warriors	Royal Blue/ Black/ White
Vikings	Purple/ White/ Gold
Texans	Red/ Navy Blue/ White
Ducks	White/ Green/ Gold
Sooners	Red/ White
Soldiers	Yellow/ Black/ White
Rams	Gold/ Royal Blue/ White
Dragons	Blue/ Black/ White
Chiefs	Black/ Red/ White

The men’s and women’s board will meet and clear out all protests before any new board take over.

Section VI: Coaches and Directors

6.1 Head Coaches/Directors:

- New Head Coaches/Directors should be recommended to the league body by the retiring coach with organizational approval.
 - If a retiring Head Coach/Director is unavailable to recommend his replacement, the league will recognize the organization’s recommendation.
- They must be present at the meeting to be approved, must be at least 21 years of age, and be known as a responsible individual.
- The league will not recognize one person as Head Coach/Director of all football/drill teams/levels. This responsibility includes all drill team activities pertaining to the safety and morality of each child.

6.2 Responsibility:

Head Coaches/Directors will be responsible to the league for the conduct of themselves, their assistants, players, fans and their organizations.

- They will be responsible to the league for team debts.
- Any coach may be dismissed from the MPWFA, by the vote of 2/3 of the registered teams.
 - If a meeting is held, a resignation will not be acceptable. A vote will have to be taken by secret ballot.

A head drill director cannot be dismissed without approval of the Executive Board and 2/3 vote of registered teams. If at any time (past or future), a head coach or assistant coach is dismissed from the league or association by 2/3 of the registered teams, that person will not be allowed to continue to participate in any capacity within Mesquite Pee Wee Football.

Any coach getting two flags will come before the Executive Board of the MPWFA for disciplinary action and the decision from the Executive Board will be final.

6.3 Organizational Relief:

Any organization may relieve a head coach or a head drill director of their duties when:

- A) Six (6) of the coaches and directors of said organization vote to relieve said coach or drill director.
- B) 2/3 of Executive Board vote to grant such relief.

Section VII: Player Registration, Requirements, and Information

7.1 Player Assignment:

- Any player may secure a release to play for another team if approved by the Men's Executive Board. That player will be assigned by the Executive Board to play for the team with the least number of players in his/her age group. The player reassignment due to releases will be determined by the Executive Board.
- Any unusual case may be brought before the Executive Board for ruling or placement of a child, providing these rules are applied.

7.2 Age:

A player must be within the minimum and maximum age as follows on or before August 1st:

“C” /Senior Division - at least 11 BUT no more than 12 years of age.

For drill team **ONLY**: No more than 13 years of age

“D”/Junior Division - at least 9 BUT no than 10 years of age more.

“E”/Sophomore Division - at least 7 BUT no more than 8 years of age.

“F”/Flag Division - at least 4 BUT no more than 6 years of age.

- **Exceptions:**

- A) If less than 14 players within the age limits of “C” and “D” Divisions within a zone, it may be arranged through the Executive Board to assign players of the maximum age within these divisions to the next higher division to create evenly manned teams withing a zone.
- B) The Executive Board will have the power to approve or disapprove a player's eligibility or placement on a team providing the player meets all the requirements set forth by the MPWFA (on all unusual cases).

7.3 Weights:

There will be one (1) weigh-in for each division before the season of play starts. The date will be determined by the Executive Board each year. All contracts will be turned in on weigh-in day, along with birth certificates, or certified statements and recent photographs. Team rosters (forms furnished by league) will be turned in at this time. NO EXCEPTIONS... Any Head Coach failing to comply with the above will be assessed a fine by the Executive Board.

All weights will not be more than, there are not any weight requirements:

“C” Division 150 LBS

“D” Division 135 LBS

“E” Division 125 LBS

“F” Division Not Applicable

7.4 Penalty:

A forfeit will be called when a player designated as ineligible enters the field of play during the course of any game.

- A) Any team that is found to have played a player who does not meet the eligibility requirements set forth in section VII of the MPWFA rules, will forfeit all games that said player has participated in.

7.5 Consent:

Parent's or guardian's consents must be secured for each player before he is allowed any contact work. This consent should be legal contract form and should indemnify the coaches, staff, organizers, sponsors, and league from liability.

Section VIII: Schedules

8.1 Schedule:

Ten (10) games

- A) One (1) non-zone
- B) Four (4) other in zone in
- C) Three (3) zones

Zone will be compromised of two (2) zones. We will draw numbers to decide which zones will be in each zone the first year. The zones will rotate zones each year.

ZONES:

NORTH	SOUTH
Soldiers	Texans
Chiefs	Sooners
Rams	Dragons
Vikings	Ducks
Blue Warriors	

8.2 Practice Schedules:

Team workout schedules will be up to each team according to their policy. However, it is recommended that practice sessions be held with consideration for meals, school homework, special events, and family life.

“C” and “D” teams may begin workouts August 1st, “E” teams- July 25th and “F” teams July 15th.

No Sunday practices.

MPWFA first day of practice is July 19, 2021.

8.3 Practice Games Schedules:

Practice games will be scheduled by and officiated, if desired, by the concerned teams.

8.4 Regular Season Games Schedules:

The regular season schedules will be prepared by the officers of league using procedures which will ensure fair advantage to all teams. The proposed schedule must be completed by August 15th and a copy furnished to the City Parks Department. Schedules will be drawn randomly by number with home team designated.

8.5 Make-Up Canceled Games:

The President and Director together can cancel a game. The game cannot be rescheduled before 6:00PM the following Monday. If rescheduled game is canceled, the game may be rescheduled after 24 hours.

8.6 Starting Time:

All games must start no later than 10 minutes of scheduled starting time.

- **Penalty:** Any team failing to field a team within 10 minutes after starting time will forfeit the game.

8.7 Outside Games:

Any organization with no teams in the playoffs may participate in an outside Bowl Game, except on drill competition day and with all league obligations met.

Section IX: Practice and Game Sites

9.1 Practice Fields:

Permission is usually granted by city or school to hold practice sessions on school parks. Official permission should be secured from the Executive Board by each team to practice on their preferred location. No team is allowed to have regular practice sessions on city football fields, such as Evans and Paschal. Such fields may be used only by special permission of the City Park Department and arranged by the Executive Board.

9.2 Game Sites:

Regular season, playoffs, and championship games will be played at city park fields designated by the City Parks Department.

Section X: Game Rules

10.1 Playing Rules:

The league will play under National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) rules, with the exceptions as included herein:

10.2 Officiating:

There will be three (3) SFOA Officials at each game with, at least, one (1) year experience each.

10.3 Substitutions:

There will be free substitutions.

10.4 Playing Time:

Regular season games will consist of four (4) 10-minute quarters.

10.5 Time Outs:

Each team will have three (3) time-outs per half with a 15-minute half-time intermission.

10.6 Tie Games:

- A) In the event that two (2) teams tie in a regular season game, the winner shall be determined by:

- 1) Penetrations
- 2) First Downs
- 3) Cornell Rule

In the Cornell Rule, the ball will be placed on the 50-yard line. Each team will have four (4) downs to move the ball. The team with the most yards gained at the end of the fourth down will be the winner. The yards lost will be deducted from yards gained. Passes intercepted will be considered as an incomplete.

- B) In the event the city championship game ends in a tie, each team will be crowned co-champion.

10.7 Protests:

Protests are limited to player eligibility. Any Head Coach may question a player eligibility through the Executive Board at any time after 1st game.

10.8 Extra Points:

Extra points will count as follows:

- A) Extra points will run one (1) pass two (2) will count as one (1) point.
- B) Extra points that are kicked will count as three (3) points.

10.9 Disciplinary Action:

Any player that gets ejected from a ball game for fighting will be ineligible for the next league game.

10.10 Chain and Down Marker Assignments:

At Evans, Paschall, and tackle fields, the chains will be kept on the visiting team's side. The visiting team will furnish three (3) people to run the chains. The home team will designate which side of the field they want to be on.

Football Rules

Section XI: Equipment

11.1 Uniforms:

Uniform requirements for each player are as follows and it will be the responsibility of Head Coaches to see that these requirements are met:

For practice and games:

- 1) Helmet- Noc Saf Approved.
- 2) Shoulder pads- Rawlings CP-2 or equivalent.
- 3) Pants- with hip pads, thigh guards and knee pads.
- 4) Shoes- Lace-up tennis shoes or shoes with unattachable rubber cleats not over ½ inches long
- 5) Jersey- A jersey numbered front and back with team color. Jersey color will be assigned by league president in order not to duplicate any other team.

11.2 Ball:

Ball will be youth league “5Y” type with one of the following specifications:

Wilson K-2-Pee Wee
Wilson K-2- Pee Wee- “E”
Wilson K-2- Pee Wee – “D”
Wilson TDJ- Junior- “D”
Wilson TDY- Junior- Intermediate

- **Exceptions:** “E” Division will use a ball brand name Wilson YFL or its equivalent.

11.3 Down Markers and Chain:

The down marker and chain will be supplied by league and made available at each game by the most effective means of time.

11.4 Mouth Protectors:

The use of mouth protectors is **NOT** optional. All mouth pieces must be attached to the helmet.

Section XII: Flag Football Rules

12.1 General:

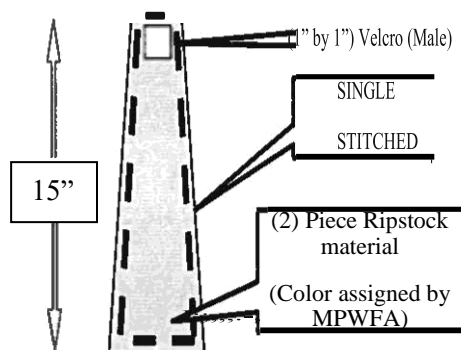
In adopting official football rules for use in Flag Football, the object has been to keep as close to the original rules as possible and at the same time eliminate the dangerous hazards to body contact. Flag Football games will be conducted under NCAA rules with the following exceptions:

12.2 Team and Player Eligibility:

All players and teams must be qualified under the general rules and regulations of the MPWFA.

12.3 Player Equipment:

- A) Players must have jerseys or shirts of like colors with the minimum of a 4-inch number on front and back and will be worn always tucked into the trousers. There will be an official time-out for equipment repair and tucking in of jersey.
- B) Players are prohibited from wearing cleated shoes, except molded rubber cleated (soccer shoes) or tennis shoes.
- C) Two cloth (no plastic) tip type standard flags with Velcro zip fasteners and 15" in length, of contrasting colors to pants and stripes. Must be worn by runners and eligible receivers.
- D) Flags must be "store brought" (no home-made). Approximately 2" X 15". All flags must be flat before each game. No rolling or wadding of the flags is permitted.
- E) Maximum size of Velcro on pants or shorts is 2-inch by 2-inch. Velcro CANNOT be industrial type or strength.
- F) Helmets, shoulder pads, and thigh pads are prohibited. No use of any unyielding hard substance on the hand, wrist, forearm, or elbow.



12.4 Game Regulations:

- A) The game shall start play beginning on the 40-yard line. The winner of the toss shall have a choice of offense or defense. The loser gets the choice of goals. The situation is reversed at the beginning of the third quarter.
- B) A team shall consist of at least 11 players: the 4 backs and the 2 ends are eligible receivers. The team must have at least 9 players to start.
- C) Flag "F" level can fire off.

- D) All offensive linemen must be in a 3-point stance. All defensive linemen must lay gap defense if they are on the line.
- E) A fumble or muff shall be dead and belong to the team that had last possession at the----where the fumble occurred with the loss of the down.
- F) Both coaches (offense and defense) who are on the field with their team cannot give instructions to the players after the ball is in the play. This means when the quarterback is under the center.
- G) After a safety is scored, the ball will be returned to the 40-yard line.
- H) Two teams cannot have the same color of flag on the field at the same time. Visiting teams must change colors of flags.
- I) You cannot wear flags containing your team colors.
- J) Center must wear flags.
- K) Flags must be worn on left and right, parallel to legs.
- L) League is to buy four (4) sets of flags in case of coinciding colors on field.
- M) The south side of the field is to be designated as home field. Home team must provide persons for chains and down marker.
- N) Only coaches on the field will be able to call the timeouts.
- O) Penetrations will be called when ball is on or within the 10-yard line.
- P) Flag play-off games will be played on an 80-yard field.
- Q) A game will consist of four (4), eight (8) minute quarters.

12.5 Penalties:

Same as NCAA with the following exceptions:

- A) The ball carrier shall not protect his flag by blocking with his hands or arms or by stiff arming. The penalty is ten (10) yards from point of foul.
- B) An offensive player's feet cannot be off the ground at the same time as he is going through the line. The penalty is ten (10) yards from the point of foul.
- C) If an offensive pass receiver's flag is removed by a defensive player prior to touching the ball, pass interference will be called on the defensive team. The penalty is ten (10) yards from the point of foul.
- D) Screening shall be considered the act of moving laterally or diagonally with an incoming man. Illegal screening will be called when an offensive player moves forward into a defensive player in an aggressive manner. The offensive blocker must keep his hands next to his jersey; he cannot use his elbows. The penalty is ten (10) yards from point of foul.
- E) Intentional tackling of the ball carrier downfield. Fifteen (15)- yard penalty. The ball is not dead until it stops rolling or is touched.
- F) The offense cannot go down field until the ball is punted. If they do, they will be given a five (5) yard penalty. Exception: Ends can go down on the snap of the ball.
- G) The kicker has five (5) seconds from the snap of the ball to kick the ball. If not, delay of game will be called.
- H) Defensive player rushing through the offensive line will be fifteen (15) yards. Tackle to tackle, they must be lined foot to foot.

Section XIII: Play-Offs

- There will be four (4) play-off teams from each zone. Zone champions will qualify automatically. Zone champions will be determined by the best record in zone games and will be seeded for the city play-offs.
- Any player that is ejected from a ball game for cussing or fighting will be ineligible for the next two (2) games.

13.1 OFFICIATING:

- A) There will be three (3) SFOA officials at each game, with one (1) year of experience each.
- B) No official will call games for an organization in which he has any family members.
- C) It is the policy to ensure fair and unbiased decision by MPWFA supplied referees. In this attempt, no MPWFA Head Coach or Assistant Coach will be allowed to referee within the MPWFA for three (3) years after his or her last year coaching session within the MPWFA.

13.2 PLAY-OFFS:

No League Executive Board Member may run the play-off time clock during any of his associated organizational division games who are participating in the play-offs.

13.3 QUALIFYING FOR PLAY-OFF GAMES:

- A) There will be eight (8) play-off teams per division.
- B) Zone champions qualify automatically and will be determined by best zoned record.
- C) The remaining five (5) play-off teams will be determined by the best overall record.

13.4 ELIMINATION FROM PLAY-OFFS:

- A) No team shall be eliminated from the play-off by coin flip or record against teams not involved in tie.
- B) If two (2) or more teams are tied for the last spot in the play-off bracket:
- C) Head-to-Head Competition (teams must have all played each other).
- D) Record in games between teams involved.
- E) play-off game.

13.5 ZONE CHAMPIONS:

- A) Zone champions will be determined by games played within their zone.

- B) If two (2) teams have the same record, the tiebreaker will be Head-to-Head Competition.
- C) If there is a tie between three (3) or more teams the following tie breaker system will be used:
- D) Head-to-Head.
- E) Point differential in games played against teams involved in tie. There will be a 14-point maximum per game.
- F) If two (2) teams point differential is the same, go back to Head-to-Head.

Drill Team Rules

Section XIV: Mascots and Instructors

14.1 Mascots:

The age and number of mascots will be left to the discretion of the Head Director, provided he/she is not covered by drill team age.

- They will not be allowed to perform during Zone and City competitions.
 - They will not be allowed to participate with the drill team until all judging is complete.
 - Any exceptions must be approved by the Women's Executive Board.

14.2 Directors:

In the event the head director vacates their position AFTER prop check, the new director will have the option to check-in their props of choice.

- Props must be 100% field ready

14.3 Instructors:

The age and number of instructors will be left to the discretion of the Head Director, provided he/she is not covered by drill team age.

- Any exceptions must be approved by the Women's Executive Board.

14.4 Disciplinary Actions:

Any disciplinary action on a drill Director, assistance, instructor, or participant will be notified of any fine being assessed, will be a joint decision between the League Executive Board and the Drill Executive Board.

- The disciplinary process must be started and completed, as soon as possible, and a special meeting being held with the involved parties.
- Actions may include individual probation, suspension, and up to, and including, point deductions and/or disqualification at competition.

Section XV: Teams

15.1 Size of Teams:

There will not be a maximum number of girls on each team level.

15.2 Pull Up and Exceptions:

Requests for approval of “pull-ups” for the age or grade rule, must be completed on a MPWFA approved form and reviewed by the Women’s Executive Board, on a case-by-case basis.

Section XVI: Registration

16.1 Rosters:

Original and three (3) copies listing the participants name, date of birth, address, phone number, and school attending

- No participant may be added after rosters have been submitted
- One (1) of the three (3) copies will have INSURANCE COPY typed at the top and will not have a list of staff members

16.2 Itemized Statements:

Original and with original receipts attached and three (3) copies, will be submitted in a sealed envelope at a designated time and location, labeled with the Director’s name, team name, and phone number.

- Original receipts must be stamped or signed by the store where items were purchased or from the individual purchased from, this includes seamstress receipts.
 - SEAMSTRESS- Seamstress fee will be a **\$60.00 maximum** per person for drill uniform and **\$15.00 maximum** per person for rainy day/cheerleader uniform. This amount will be shown with the receipts attached to the itemized statements.
- No organization group receipts, or donations, are allowed.
- All receipts must have original date and it must be prior to deadline or they will not be accepted.
- Statements must include the total cost of props, materials, trims, etc. for one (1) participant. Cost will be the total BEFORE shipping and handling.
- No charge items do not have to be included and do not require receipts.
 - Examples: standard eyeshadow, lipstick, glue, nude-colored tights (non-shimmer/glittery)

A typed music list and a roster of staff members will be included.

- Music may not contain any vulgar, lewd, and/or abusive lyrics.
 - If the music is deemed to be any of these things, it will not be allowed.

16.3 Submission:

All rosters and itemized statements must be typed and turned in on the date set by the Women's Executive Board.

- The following penalties/fines will be assessed, if necessary:
 - Directors will be assessed a \$25.00 fine, if the itemized statement is turned in after 12:01PM, on the set date.
 - Directors who turn in itemized statements twenty-four (24) hours late, will be assessed an additional \$25.00 fine.
 - Directors who turn in itemized statements forty-eight (48) hours late, 25-points will be deducted at Zone competition.
 - Directors who turn in itemized statements seventy-two (72) hours late, 50-points will be deducted at Zone competition and/or suspension.
- Pictures, insurance waivers, birth certificates, and proofs of residency/school must be stapled together when turned in with rosters. All addresses must match for each child on each form.
- Head Directors will have the right to examine any team's itemized statement and roster at the time so designated by the League.
 - At the beginning of the next season, all birth certificates and photographs will be returned to the Director. A second copy of the participant's birth certificate will be in the possession of the drill Director and available upon request.

SECTION XVII: Props and Uniforms

A picture of one (1) participant with the team uniform on (front and back) with props (if any used) must be provided during inspection

- No backless uniforms will be permitted. If you cannot turn the back of the uniform around and wear it in the front, it is backless.

17.1 Colors:

Any shade of the team color or combination of colors must be used, up to and including neon.

- Teams may have one (1) secondary color. Example: team colors are blue, black, and white. Secondary color may be purple, green, red, etc.

All teams are allowed to use black/gray, white/silver, yellow/gold, and brown/nude.

- Nude color/material may not be worn “inappropriately” or to give the illusion of nudity.

PROPS may be any color

Rainy days/Cheerleading uniforms **must** be in team colors.

- They will be under the same criteria as field uniforms

** On a yearly basis, the Drill Executive Board may approve specific colored based attire for short-term recognition events such as: awareness campaigns, etc. Example: Pink socks, bows, ribbon, gloves, sweatbands, etc. for the month October for breast cancer awareness month. **

17.2 Props:

No wheels, nails, and/or hazardous items shall be sticking out/off of the prop.

- If MISD deems the prop unsafe for the turf, the prop cannot be used.

Standing area for community props is as follows:

- Flag: 2 levels or 24" total height
- E, D, and C: 3 levels or 28" total height

Standing area for individual props is as follows:

- Flag: 12" maximum
- E, D, and C: 14" maximum

community prop is defined by two or more participants using it.

any props to be stood on must have safety strips applied and are not required to be on itemized statements.

If multiple props are used, they can be different.

- Example: participant #1 has streamers, participant #2 has a hoop, participant #3 has poms.

Props must be carried on and off the field by participant and cannot be purposely left on the field during Zone and/or City competition.

- 50-point deduction will be assessed.

17.3 Uniforms:

Complete uniforms and props must be on field by the fourth game, and every game thereafter, weather permitting.

- In the event that it is raining, or has rained in the last 24 hours, and/or any portion of the field is muddy, then each director has the option to or to not wear the complete uniform upon notifying a Drill Executive Board Member.
 - Failure to do so will result in a \$25.00 fine during weeks 4 and 5; 30-point deduction at Zone competition during weeks 6 and 7.

17.4 Costs:

Costumes are not to exceed \$90.00 for Flag ("F"), "E", "D", and "C". This includes character make up, hair piece (if worn by more than 25% of team).

- If uniform is purchased online, the \$60.00 seamstress fee would be applied giving you \$150 per participant to use

Standard shoes are \$20.00, anything over that amount must be labeled on itemized statement. One receipt must be submitted with itemized statement for proof of purchase.

- Anything added to the shoes must be itemized

Items that are “no charge” must be listed in that section of the itemized statement.

- ANYTHING NOT ITEMIZED, including shimmer tights/decorated pantyhose with team name/logo must be removed BEFORE team performance. Any violation of this rule during the regular season and/or competition, will result in a \$25.00 fine, one (1) game suspension, and/or a 50-point deduction at competition.
- There will be no change made to the costumes or props after the costume and prop checks, that will be adding and changing the look of the costume or prop in any way.
 - Items may be taken away, but they may not be added back on.
- Rhinestones and feather boas are permissible.
 - MISD has the final say if feather boas can be allowed on the MISD fields.

Replacement items must be of an equal value to the original item.

*Only applies to the actual damaged item.

SECTION XVIII: Drill Schedules

18.1 Practice:

Any portion of the routine to be performed during Zone and/or City competition shall not be taught PRIOR to the 3rd Monday of July.

- Directors cannot mandate that a participant(s) attend any sort of camps or clinics for dance and/or cheer, or any professional or private classes or schools.
 - Violation of this rule will result in a punishment set by the Drill Executive Board by either a fine or a point reduction at Zone or City competition.

Scheduled field practices will be on a rotation for all organizations, except for the last two weeks before competition.

- Example: if Organization A has the field on Monday in 2015, they will have it on Tuesday in 2016

- Field replacement due to poor weather or any other unforeseen issue is not guaranteed.

18.2 Practice Areas:

Any team in the same zone will NOT share the same day at the same field for their assigned field practice.

- Other than the assigned days/times, no one is allowed to practice or perform on a professionally marked football field or parking lot

No teams will share OR practice in the same area, field, and/or school as another organization during the regular season without prior acknowledgement and approval from the Drill Executive Board

SECTION XIX: Performance Rules

19.1 Performance Sequence:

The home team will perform last unless an agreement is made between the drill team Directors prior to half time.

- The drill team waiting to perform will not go past the 20-yard line until the other team has left the field nor will they be allowed in front of the bleacher until the other team has left the field.

19.2 Half Time Performance:

Each drill team will be given a maximum of 10 minutes during half time intermission to make announcements, march on the field to complete their performance and clear the field. This will be enforced starting at Zone games. Failure to comply is subject to a fine.

- Weekly halftime performances are required by all drill teams unless it is an organization bye week or approved by the Drill Executive board.
 - Any director choosing not to perform will be subject to a fine and/or suspension.
- Performances will consist of drill team performance and introductions.
 - During regular season games, staff members should be allowed to assist/give directions to the team on the field. Failure to comply is subject to a fine and/or suspension.
 - Mascots and parents are not allowed to perform during regular season halftime games. Mascots and parents are allowed to perform during playoff halftime.
- During the halftime performance, no music will be allowed on the opposite field.

19.3 Pre- and During Performance:

Drill teams will be required to line up on the sideline of the opposite side of the judges. There will be an eight-minute maximum and a five-minute minimum on the field and a one-minute performance on either side of the side lines.

- Time will start when the first girl crosses the white line and will stop when the last girl steps off the field. All props must come off the field with the team.
- Once the last girl crosses the line to come off the field the time stops, and you cannot re-enter the field.

19.4 Splits/High Kicks/Stunts:

All splits will be allowed except as follows (not to be used), with or without the use of prop boxes:

- Jump splits
- Air splits
 - **Air and jump splits are any split done with the participant's hands MORE than 12 inches from the ground.**
 - If illegal splits or high kicks are put on the performing field prior to competition, the Director will be subject to punishment as determined by the Drill Executive Board and may be assessed a \$100.00 fine.

Stunts must be limited to two body heights (ground being the first level).

- Stunts such as full press, liberty, and basket toss will not be allowed.

Cheer Rules

Section XX: Responsibilities

20.1 General:

Head Coaches must be present at all practices, games, or other official team activities. These may be delegated to assistant coaches or business managers/team moms.

- Never, under any circumstance, is a child to be left unattended. The coach shall stay until, she/he is released to a parent or the parent's designated representative. If a child is left unattended, the head coach will be benched for 2 games.
- Notify each team member of any changes in practice or game schedules, or any other activities.
- Fulfill all other obligations and responsibilities set forth in the rulebook.

20.2 Suspension:

Any coach who violates the coaches code of conduct may be immediately suspended from her/his duties at the sole discretion of the cheerleading director. Any suspended coach has the right to appeal her/his suspension at a regularly scheduled or special meetings of the SYSA board. The cheerleading director is under no obligation to call a special meeting as a result of a coach's suspension.

- Upon appeal the MPWFA board may elect to 1. Overturn a coach's suspension and reinstate her immediately, 2. Limit the suspension to a specific period of time, or 3. Dismiss the coach.

Section XXI: Registration

21.1 Submission:

All rosters and itemized statements must be typed and turned in on the date set by the Women's Executive Board.

****anything not listed will not be allowed to be used at competition****

- The following penalties/fines will be assessed, if necessary:
 - Coaches will be assessed a \$25.00 fine, if the itemized statement is turned in after 12:01PM, on the set date.
 - Coaches who turn in itemized statements twenty-four (24) hours late, will be assessed an additional \$25.00 fine.
 - Coaches who turn in itemized statements forty-eight (48) hours late, 25-points will be deducted at Zone competition.

- Coaches who turn in itemized statements seventy-two (72) hours late, 50-points will be deducted at Zone competition and/or suspension.
- Pictures, insurance waivers, birth certificates, and proofs of residency/school must be stapled together when turned in with rosters. All addresses must match for each child on each form.
- Head Coaches will have the right to examine any team's itemized statement and roster at the time so designated by the League.
 - At the beginning of the next season, all birth certificates and photographs will be returned to the Coach. A second copy of the participant's birth certificate will be in the possession of the drill Director and available upon request.

21.2 Fees:

All participants will be required to pay a fee of \$175 at the time of signups. A fee of \$45 will be paid to the head coach by the SYSA board at the first practice to defray the cost of uniforms. Each cheerleader will have the option to do a SYSA fundraiser of \$100. At the time of signups there is the option to fundraise the remaining balance or pay of the balance of \$75. **Due to the board by August 1, 2021.** Failure to turn in any funds or fundraisers on due dates will result in child not practicing or participating in games until payment is made in full.

- **Under no circumstance may uniforms, props, and other supplies (winter uniforms etc.) cost exceed three hundred twenty-five dollars (\$325) per participant for the entire season.**

21.3 Sponsorships

Coaches may obtain sponsors for their team up to a maximum of three hundred and twenty-five (\$325.00) per team member. Sponsorship monies added with \$45 uniform fee paid by the girls is the maximum amount of money to be spent on uniforms and props per team, per participant total.

- If a team does not obtain sponsorship funds, it must outfit the team using the \$45 fee paid by each girl. SYSA will not front money for cheerleading uniforms.
- The team will need to purchase plaques for sponsors of a \$100 or more. If a team wishes to purchase plaques for assistant coaches, etc. (other than the head coach's plaque) the coach or business manager will be responsible for obtaining the 5*7 picture for the plaques.

Section XXII: Competition & Performance Rules

- Competition is a contest, date and location TBA, to determine the first, second, third, etc. place teams in the flag, sophomore, junior, and senior division. Instructors and coaches cannot perform with cheerleaders at competition, either on stage or in the audience. Penalty for noncompliance is a ten (10) point deduction in the total score.

22.1 Scoring:

All coaches will be provided with a copy of the scoring sheets and draw for order of performance during the last coaches meeting of the season, to be held no later than one (1) week prior to competition.

- All cheerleaders must be in full hair and makeup before entering the stands/auditorium. Any preparation in the stands will result in a deduction of five (5) points.
- Lost, dropped, or forgotten equipment during performance and after will result in a penalty. There will be one person on the side of the stage to watch for illegal moves, stepping out of bounds, and watching for props dropped or left on stage.
- Teams will receive points for uniform appearance including neatness and hair put up out of face. No jewelry may be worn in competition, any makeup, glitter, etc. must be listed on the cost sheet. The only things that do not have to appear on your cost sheet are prescription glasses/contacts and undergarments.
- Each team will be judged and scored on a basis of one (1) to ten (10) with ten being perfect.
- All score sheets will be tallied and re-tallied thoroughly to ensure that there are no mistakes, however, once the winners are announced, no changes will be made. Please note: Score sheets will no longer be handed out at competition. They will be passed out at the last coaches meeting of the season.
- Each team will be allowed five (5) minutes to perform their cheer set and five (5) minutes to perform their dance. 30 seconds to get on stage and set up, 4 minutes to perform, and 30 seconds to get off stage.
- All head coaches and assistant coaches will cross the stage when trophies are presented. Noncompliance will result in the head coach or assistant coach not being able to return the following year.

All teams must participate in competition, penalty for noncompliance is an automatic designation as “participant” and participant trophies will be awarded.

****TIES**** *A TIE WILL REMAIN A TIE*

22.2 Performance:

Dance music not to exceed 3 ½ minutes. Dance must be a minimum of 2 minutes and 15 seconds, with the exception of flag which may be 1 ½ minutes. You cannot use more than ½ of the music or routine from the previous year.

22.3 Uniforms:

- A head coach may use the same style of uniform as the preceding year if desired, however each participating cheerleader must receive all new items. Once uniform has been ordered no changes can be made to the uniform (style of letters, braid, trim, etc.). The coach is responsible for ordering uniforms. **Uniform must be approved by cheer director prior to ordering NO EXCPTIONS!**
- Only one uniform per team. (This does not affect variances for cold weather such as sweats, jackets, etc.) This is optional. The basic uniform shall be the same all year, you may not change the uniform for competition. The basic uniform is defined as skirt/shorts, tops/sweater, shoes, and socks.

Uniforms used at competition must be the same as used on the field during regular season games.