

# **NORTH ATLANTA METRO LEAGUE**

## **Constitution and By-Laws**

### Article I

The name of the organization is the North Atlanta Metro League (NAML).

### Article II

The purpose of the NAML is and shall be to organize, stimulate, encourage and promote athletic programs in an effort to foster fair play, good fellowship, true sportsmanship and wholesome competition for boys and girls.

### Article III

#### Membership

1. Membership in the NAML is limited to private middle schools in the Atlanta area.
2. Application for membership must be made to the Executive Director in writing by a school's chief administrator. Application will be approved or disapproved by a majority of the membership. All membership decisions will be reported to the league.
3. The executive management, control and final authority of this association belong to the Executive Board. The Executive Board will consist of three members to include: (1) Executive Director, (1) Assistant Executive Director, and a (1) Treasurer. (If the league goes to two or more classifications the officers will increase to five with two classification Presidents added to the Executive Board).
4. The officers will be elected to serve two year teams, to coincide with realignment. The election will be held via email during the Spring semester. A simple majority of the quorum is needed for election.
5. To be eligible to serve as the Executive Director a person must have served as Assistant Executive Director.
6. A majority of the Executive Board must act on League business.

### Article IV

The general operations of NAML will follow the guidelines of the League Constitution, By-laws and Athletic Plans.

### Article V

#### Eligibility qualifications for competition

A student/athlete:

1. has not reached 15 years of age prior to September 1 of the current school year for students up through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and is enrolled in the particular grade levels. Exceptions to the above must be approved by the Executive Board.
2. is a full-time student at the member school.

3. For participation in NAML, a student's gender is determined by the gender noted on his/her certificate at birth.

## Article VI

### Amending the Constitution

1. To amend the Constitution, a proposal must be made to the Executive Board and approved by the Executive Board and then pass a vote by the entire membership by a 2/3 majority.

## **NAML BY-LAWS**

### Member School Responsibilities

1. Pay all fees and dues by the specified date. Fees, for the entire year, are due on September 15. Schools that are late with payment shall forfeit all NAML contest up to the point of when payment is made. If payment is not made, schools will not be allowed to compete in the upcoming seasons until payment is made in full. In addition, a late fee of \$100 shall be assessed to the school. Fees and due include all administrative costs and allows each member school to participate in any and all NAML sports with no additional fees.
2. Fill out roster for each sport at start of each season, add any players as needed and turn in a playoff roster by the designated deadlines.
3. Turn in all season reports by designated deadlines.
4. Have a school representative attend all mandatory League meetings. Failure to attend mandatory meetings may result in a fine of \$50; fine will be determined by the Executive Board.
5. Comply with the "letter and spirit of the rules and regulations" of the NAML Constitution, By-laws, and Athletic plans.
6. Obtaining and providing qualified officials and game volunteers for League games.

### League Responsibilities

1. Scheduling league-wide events and district play. Individual school schedule changes and make-up games will be re-scheduled by individual schools involved.
2. Sanctioning League events, awards, and recognition.
3. Maintaining League financial records.
4. Enforcing League Constitution, By-laws, Athletic plans and League standards.

### Code of Ethics

Each member school should act in accordance with high standards in modeling sportsmanship. Coaches, players, and spectators should be encouraged in the goals of this league. Schools should also conduct themselves in the most professional manner possible.

1. Coaches are the heart and soul of the NAML organization. They have the primary responsibility of carrying out and accomplishing the goals of the League. Therefore, the conduct of the coach should be above reproach. Coaches should uphold the standards expected of the students in #2. Infractions by a coach MUST be reported to the Executive Director as well as the Administrator of the school they are employed. The Executive Director, with the Executive Board will determine what sanctions are to be levied on coaches or schools in violation. In the case of an ejection, NAML mandates that the coach be suspended for the next league game, in addition to the game from which he/she was ejected. The Executive Board may add additional games to repeat offenders and/or if the situation warrants.
2. Players are representatives of both their school and the NAML organization. Players will refrain from profanity, abusive language, outbursts. Any physical abuse or fighting directed at teammates, opposing players, coaches, spectators, and officials. NAML expects member schools to deal with their own athletes to ensure meeting the League standards. In the case of an ejection, the infraction MUST be reported to the Executive Director as well as the Administrator of the school they represent. NAML mandates that the player will be suspended for the next league game, in addition to the game from which he/she was ejected. The Executive Board may add additional games to repeat offenders and/or if the situation warrants.
3. Spectators are the supporters of the players and member schools, and are expected to conduct themselves in a positive manner. Any misconduct on the part of spectators needs to be addressed by the coach or administrator of the member school.

#### Eligibility and Competition

1. Academic eligibility will be determined by the individual member schools.
2. Eighth graders may not play down on 7<sup>th</sup> grade teams.
3. In sports where there are separate 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade divisions, 7<sup>th</sup> graders may play on both the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams during the regular season; (in basketball NAML will use the 5 quarters per day rule). Players may NOT play on more than one team for the post-season tournament.
4. Teams that repeatedly fail to meet their commitment and do not play a regularly scheduled game will be put on a probationary status for one year.
5. Any exception to the above rules must be approved by the Executive Board.
6. If a team forfeits a regular season NAML game in the regular season, they automatically lose any tie break scenarios for playoffs.
7. When specified by the Executive Committee, playoffs may be divided in to Big School/Small School Divisions.

#### Protests/Violations

1. Protest must be made orally to the Executive Director within 24 hours of the alleged infraction. A letter shall be sent to the Executive Director within 48 hours of the oral notification and shall outline the reasons for the protest.
2. Upon notification, the Executive Director will have the option of having the Executive Board review the protest/violation.

3. An Executive Board member shall disqualify himself/herself from any review if the school in question is their employer.
4. The Executive Director, if protest is addressing a NAML rule, will decide within three days. If the protest involves judgment, the Executive Director will contact the Executive Board for a decision.
5. Official's judgment calls are not valid grounds for protest.

#### Additional Rules

1. The Executive Board will determine how many classifications the league has and any population caps for classifications. NAML will have a re-alignment, every two years, based on the populations of students in grades 6 – 8.
2. All district ties shall result in a Co-championship except when seeding for post-season tournaments. Please refer to the website for individual sport tie breaks.
3. A minimum of three teams need to compete in a sport, within a classification, in order to be sanctioned by NAML and conduct a post-season tournament.
4. Individual classifications will determine how many teams will make the playoffs and the playoff format.
5. Teams that field 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be referred to as 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams (formerly varsity). They may include players from younger grades. Teams that consist of 7<sup>th</sup> graders and younger will be referred to as 7<sup>th</sup> grade teams (formerly JV).
6. When teams play two or more games during a season and only one counts toward the League standings, the second game will count as the League game, unless both schools agree in writing (email is sufficient) that another game counts as the region game.
7. If a team is unable to play in the post-season tournament, the team will forfeit their game and the tournament will continue. There will be no replacement teams.
8. The NAML Cups will be presented every year for each classification. Tie breaking steps when two or more teams are tied at the end of the school year:
  - a. The team that won the most championships
  - b. The team with the most 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes
  - c. The team with the most 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishes
  - d. The team with the most 4<sup>th</sup> place finishes
9. The NAML Executive Board will determine when a new sport or tournament becomes eligible for NAML Cup points.

#### Amending By-Laws and Establishing League Rules

1. To amend the by-laws a proposal must be made and approved by the Executive Board and then pass a vote by the entire membership by a 2/3 majority.

