

# CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS OF THE CORNBELT CONFERENCE

Adopted: April 2, 1986  
Revised: January, 2016

## ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Cornbelt Conference (referred to herein as the Conference).

## ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

Section I – The primary purpose shall be to promote interschool activities among the member schools of this conference.

Section II – Maintain interscholastic activities in accordance with rules and regulations as set forth by the South Dakota High School Activities Association.

Section III – Promote good fellowship among all faculty members of the Conference schools.

## ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section I – The members of the Conference shall be the public schools at Bridgewater-Emery, Canistota, Freeman, Hanson, Howard and Menno. (McCrossan in Cross Country and Track) (Mt. Vernon/Plankinton in FB only, Marion in football only as a coop school with Menno)

Section II – Any school who is a member of the South Dakota High School Activities Association may apply for membership to the conference. It shall take a favorable vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the schools of the conference to approve a new application to the conference.

Section III – All schools in the Conference must participate in all conference activities as a Conference member, unless excused from participation by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote of the conference members, or unless a Cooperative is involved – in which case, non-member schools shall be admitted into the conference in a single or multiple sports without charge upon entering a legal cooperative recognized by the SDHSAA and upon notification to the Cornbelt Conference Secretary-Treasurer/Statistician. Dates and site of conference games are to be at conference schools, unless there is a mutually agreeable site chosen by the schools involved.

Section IV – A member school who desires to withdraw from the Conference for reasons other than cooping, must submit a request in writing, signed by the Superintendent, to the Conference Chairman, not later than twelve months before the intended date of withdrawal. Schools desiring to leave the Conference for the purposes of cooping will follow the dates as established by the SDHSAA for cooping in those particular sports.

Section V – IF any school in the conference loses its rights and membership to the South Dakota High School Activities Association, they also lose the same rights and membership in the Cornbelt Conference

Section VI – A school may be removed from the Conference by a three-fourths (3/4) vote which favors expulsion of that member. A school that is being considered for expulsion must be informed before a vote is taken and shall have an opportunity to defend itself.

Section VII – Representatives of the member schools of the conference shall consist of the administrators and other designated personnel. Each member school shall have one vote on all matters pertaining to interschool relationships. The Superintendent or their designee shall be the only person who can make a motion, second, or vote.

Section VIII – All members of the Conference must be properly notified of a business meeting before a bona fide meeting can be held.

#### **ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS AND DUTIES**

Section I – The officers of this Conference shall be the President, and Secretary-Treasurer/Statistician. The office of President is determined by nomination and voting of the member schools. The office of Secretary-Treasurer/Statistician is determined by application or appointment.

Section II – The duties of the President shall be to preside at the Conference meetings.

Section III – In the absence of the President, the Conference Secretary-Treasurer/Statistician shall preside at the Conference meetings.

Section IV – The duties of the Secretary-Treasurer/Statistician shall be: to record and keep minutes of the Conference meetings and statistics; to receive, record, deposit and disburse the funds of the Conference; and to prepare a financial report and agenda for each regular Conference meeting.

Section V – The Officers shall be elected or appointed at the last annual meeting in the spring of each school year.

#### **ARTICLE V – MEETINGS**

Section I – The place and time for the meetings for the ensuing school year will be set at the last annual meeting in the spring of each school year.

Section II – Special meetings shall be called by the President as he/she deems necessary.

Section III – The meeting format will be as follows:

- A. Adopt the agenda
- B. Recognize the voting members of each school
- C. Conduct the meeting with entire body present for motions, discussions, and voting.
- D. Adjournment

#### **ARTICLE VI – AMENDMENTS**

Section I – This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the member schools.

Section II – Proposed amendments may themselves be amended by a majority of the member schools represented at a regular meeting, provided such amendments to proposed amendments do not negate the proposed amendment as originally submitted.

Section III – The By Laws of the constitution may be amended at any meeting by a majority vote of the member schools.

## **ARTICLE VII – ADMINISTRATION**

Section I – All schools in order to retain membership in this Conference must abide by the constitution of this Conference.

Section II – Failure to comply with the constitution of the Conference may result in expulsion from the Conference. Expulsion will require a three-fourths (3/4) vote in favor of excluding a member at a regular meeting.

Section III – This constitution in order to become effective must be approved and accepted by three-fourths (3/4) favorable vote of the member schools.

<b>BY LAWS</b>
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## **ARTICLE I – GENERAL**

Section 1 – All member schools of this Conference shall belong to the South Dakota High School Activities Association. A cooperative shall be a member of this conference provided one school is a member of the conference.

Section 2 – Rules and regulations covering Conference contests shall be governed by the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations and the South Dakota High School Activities Association.

Section 3 – The annual dues for all member schools, if any, shall be set by the Conference at the annual fall meeting of the Cornbelt Conference schools. Schools entering the Cornbelt Conference in part, will pay \$150.00 per year for membership. In the event, partial member schools become full members, their dues, if any, would be the same as the other member schools.

Section 4 – ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENTS FOR NEEDED FUNDS MAY BE LEVIED AT ANY REGULAR MEETING BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE CONFERENCE MEMBER SCHOOLS.

Section 5 –The Cornbelt Conference recommends that member schools not hold activities after school or during the evenings on Wednesdays.

Section 6 – In case of grievances, these shall be settled at a regular meeting or at a special meeting called by the President to settle the grievance.

Section 7 – Rosters and schedules for each school are available for retrieval from the SDHSAA Web site. Contracting officials and any other pertinent information shall be handled in accordance with SDHSAA RULES and REGULATIONS.

Section 8 – Each home team shall notify the Daily Republic, Argus Leader, Yankton Press & Dakotan, and TV stations ABC, CBS, and NBC, of the scores and important statistics of the athletic

contests held in their school. This notification shall be done immediately after the final contest of the day.

Section 9 – The Head Coach in each sport shall be responsible for sending conference standings to the various news media during the season.

Section 10 – A minimum of 40 Conference passes will be given to each member school. Additional passes may be given for each school, based upon individual request from each school and approval by the Secretary-Treasurer/Statistician. Each member school is responsible for the distribution of these passes.

Section 11 – Cheerleaders, participants, and student managers will be admitted free if they are properly identified.

Section 12 – The Cornbelt Conference recommends to member schools that the admission prices for regular season events be set at the following: Adults - \$5.00 and \$3.00 for all students in grades 1-12.

Section 13 – All Conference plaques and medals for the Conference tournaments, the All-Conference teams, and track meet shall be purchased by the Conference Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 14 – The general conduct of the home crowd and student body shall be the responsibility of the home school administration. No musical instruments or other noise making devices will be allowed during the process of the game other than those played in the Pep Band.

Section 15 – Conference Sports shall include Football, Boys/Girls Basketball, Boys/Girls Cross Country, Girls Volleyball, Boys/Girls Track, and Boys/Girls Golf.

Section 16 – Conference Secretary-Treasurer/Statistician will be paid an annual salary of \$1500.00 (set April 2005).

Section 17 – Conference Secretary-Treasurer/Statistician will keep stats for Football, Basketball, Volleyball, and Track.

## **ARTICLE II – FOOTBALL**

Section 1 – The Conference football championship will be decided on a won and lost game basis with the member schools of this Conference. It is required that each member school, to be eligible for the championship, must play one game with each member in the Conference. In the case of nine conference teams and not all teams playing each other, the criteria for Conference Football Champs will be as follows:

- a. Most conference games won. There could be a tie for the conference with teams that don't play each other during the season.
- b. Tie Breaking Procedures: 1) head to head competition; 2) common opponents; 3) if teams are still tied after this criteria, there will be Co-Champs.

Section 2 – A minimum of four registered officials shall be hired by the home team and must be approved by the visiting team in advance.

Section 3 – All equipment and rules must conform to the official football rules book and to the SDHSAA rules and regulations.

Section 4 – All football games will begin at 7:00 p.m. unless mutually agreed upon between schools. (set in 2001)

Section 5 – All contracts for football must follow the master schedule as established by the SDHSAA. Home teams mail/email contracts.

Section 6 – Each home team shall notify the Daily Republic, Argus Leader, Yankton Press & Dakotan, and TV stations ABC, CBS, and NBC, of the scores and important statistics of the athletic contests held in their school. This notification shall be done immediately after the final contest of the day.

Section 7 – A first team offense and a first team defense and a 2<sup>nd</sup> team. Total all conference players will be 27. Each school is allowed to submit one player for honorable mention. The number one player selected will be designated as the MVP and the Conference will provide a plaque. All Conference team members receive a medal and a certificate. Honorable Mention members receive a certificate.

### **ARTICLE III – BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Section 1 – The Conference basketball championship will be decided on a won and lost game basis with the member schools of this conference. It is required that each member school, to be eligible for the championship, must play one game with each member team in the Conference.

Section 2 – Two or three registered officials shall be hired by the home team and must be approved by the visiting team in advance.

Section 3 – All equipment and rules must conform with the official basketball rules book and to the SDHSAA rules and regulations.

Section 4 – Each home team shall notify the Daily Republic, Argus Leader, Yankton Press & Dakotan, and TV stations ABC, CBS, and NBC, of the scores and important statistics of the athletic contests held in their school. This notification shall be done immediately after the final contest of the day

Section 5 – All contracts for basketball must follow the rules and regulations of the SDHSAA and must be contracted for a two year period. Home teams mail/email contracts.

Section 6 – SENIOR ATHLETES will be allowed to play in “B” games upon mutual agreement between respective coaches prior to the game being played.

Section 7 – All “B” basketball games will begin at 6:15 p.m. unless mutually agreed upon between schools.

Section 8 – The “B” game will consist of four, six minute quarters.

Section 9 – Three (3) teams of five members will be selected for All-Conference, a total of 15 members for girls’ basketball. The boys select two (2) teams of five for All-Conference. The number one player selected will be designated as the MVP and the Conference will provide a plaque. Each school is allowed to submit one player for honorable mention. All Conference team members receive a medal and a certificate. Honorable Mention members receive a certificate.

## **ARTICLE IV – BOYS AND GIRLS TRACK**

Section 1 – Varsity events and points are to be established according to the SDHSAA State Track Meet. (Score 8 places) JV events will be run in accordance with the varsity events with no team points.

Section 2 – Medals will be awarded the first eight places in individual events and the first six places in relay events. Six medals will be awarded in all JV events.

Section 3 – The Conference will pay for the expenses of the starter and referee for the Conference Track Meet. A certified meet starter and referee are required for the meet to be sanctioned by the SDHSAA.

Section 4 – A Conference champion will be awarded for Varsity boys, girl and Jr. Hi. boys and girls track.

## **ARTICLE V – CROSS COUNTRY**

Section 1 – The Cross Country Conference Meet will be conducted under the following rules:

- A. Varsity event, distance and teams, will be established by Class “B” SDHSAA.
- B. Ten (10) top medals will be awarded to the first ten finishers.
- C. Team Champion will be declared.
- D. Junior Varsity girls & boys – top five (5) girls and top five (5) boys awarded medals.

The Cross Country Meet shall be held, contingent on four or more schools participating.

## **ARTICLE VI – GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**

Section 1 – The Conference volleyball championship will be decided on a won and lost match basis with the member schools of this conference. It is required that each member school, to be eligible for the championship, must play one match with each member team in the Conference. In the absence of a dual match in Conference Volleyball, the first time the teams play will be considered the Conference Match.

Section 2 – Two registered officials shall be hired by the home team and must be approved by the visiting team in advance.

Section 3 – All equipment and rules must conform with the official volleyball rules book and to the SDHSAA rules and regulations.

Section 4 - Each home team shall notify the Daily Republic, Argus Leader, Yankton Press & Dakotan, and TV stations ABC, CBS, and NBC, of the scores and important statistics of the athletic contests held in their school. This notification shall be done immediately after the final contest of the day.

Section 5 – Contracts for volleyball must follow the rules and regulations of the SDHSAA and be contracted for a two year period. Home teams mail/email contracts.

Section 6 – SENIOR ATHLETES will be allowed to play in “B” games upon mutual agreement between respective coaches prior to the game being played.

Section 7 – All “B” volleyball matches will begin 6:15 p.m. unless mutually agreed upon between schools.

Section 8 – The “A” match will consist of three of five sets with rally score to 25.

Section 9 – Two (2) teams of 7 players will be selected for the All-Conference Team;-14 total members. Each school is allowed to submit one player for honorable mention. The number one player selected will be designated as the MVP and the Conference will provide a plaque. All Conference team members receive a medal and a certificate. Honorable Mention members receive a certificate.

## **ARTICLE VII – JUNIOR HIGH BASKETBALL**

Section 1 – Junior High Conference Tournament – One Day Format

- A. The host will be paid \$200 per tournament, deducted from the gate receipts.
- B. The officials will be paid \$20.00 (set March 2016) per game, deducted from gate receipts. All officials will be furnished by the host school.
- C. All Day Admission: Adults \$5.00, Students \$3.00. Conference passes will be accepted.
- D. The first place team will receive medals.
- E. The girl’s teams will use the standard 28.5 ball and the boys will use the boy’s standard size high school ball. The host school will furnish warm-up and game balls.
- F. No pressing defense allowed if there is a 20 point difference in score.
- G. The host school sites will be determined at the last annual meeting in the spring of the year.

## **ARTICLE VIII – JUNIOR HIGH VOLLEYBALL**

Section 1 – Junior High Conference Tournament – One Day Format

- A. The host school will be paid \$200 per tournament, deducted from the gate receipts.
- B. The officials will be paid \$20.00 per game, deducted from the gate receipts.
- C. Each school will provide one official and one line judge for their matches.
- D. All Day Admission: Adults \$5.00, Students \$3.00. Conference passes will be accepted.
- E. The first place team will receive medals.
- F. The host school will line up all officials.
- G. The format used will be the State Tournament 8 team bracket.

## **ARTICLE IX – JUNIOR HIGH ORAL INTERPRETATION**

Section 1 – The Junior High Oral Interpretation contest will be an annual contest to be hosted on a rotation basis. The host school will be responsible for hiring two judges and the Conference Secretary-Treasurer will pay mileage and fees to those judges.

## **ARTICLE X – QUIZ BOWL**

Section 1 – Six members per team. Four players per contest. Substitutions may be made only between contests.

Section 2 – Each round will consist of 20 toss-up questions. There will not be bonus questions. We will use the buzzer system.

Section 3 – One point will be awarded for each correct answer. If a team answers incorrectly, a member of the other team will be allowed to ring in. There are no deductions for incorrect answers. Questions will be repeated only if “Team A” rings in before a question is read in its entirety. Then the moderator will read the entire question to the other team. The moderator may also read the question if he feels that an error has been made or was not clear. If “Team A” misses the question, “Team B” may confer. Their designated captain for that round must provide the answer. Captains may change between rounds.

Section 4 – If the scores are tied after twenty questions, toss-up questions will be used until one of the teams scores a point.

Section 5 – Teams will be placed into pools of four teams. Teams will play a Round-Robin schedule within their pool. The top two teams in each pool will advance to a four-team Single Elimination Tournament.

Tie-breaker criteria within pools:

1. Head to Head
2. Total points scored in three games, not including face-off questions used to break ties.
3. Victory margin in three games.
4. Three question face-off between the tied teams.

Section 6 – Medals will be awarded to the first place team in each division.

Section 7 – There will be four divisions: 7<sup>th</sup> grade; 8<sup>th</sup> grade; JV (freshmen and sophomores only); and Varsity (9-12).

Section 9 – The Secretary-Treasurer will be responsible for purchasing the contest questions.

Section 10 – The host school will rotate alphabetically and will be responsible for providing all the workers. The host school will send out an informational letter and will also make a program for the event. The conference owns two sets of buzzers for the competition; contact the secretary-treasurer to reserve the machines.

### **Quiz Bowl Host School:**

**2017 Bridgewater-Emery**

**2018 Canistota**

**2019 Freeman**

**2020 Hanson**

**2021 Howard**

**2022 Menno**



## **ARTICLE XI – GOLF**

### **Section 1 – Conference Golf Meet – One Day Format**

- A. Four divisions: Varsity boys, Varsity girls, JV boys, JV girls.
- B. Varsity divisions will play 18 holes.
- C. Championship plaque awarded to winning varsity teams.
- D. Individual medals awarded:
  - a. Varsity: top 10
  - b. Jr Varsity: top 5
- E. The host school will line up all officials.