

SWMSRA Code of Conduct

Members of SWMSRA are expected to follow the following Code of Conduct:

- Maintain “Member in Good Standing” status of the SWMSRA, which includes timely registration, payment of dues, submitting to background check, physical and written testing efforts.
- Accept assignments and contracts for and officiate only contests for which you are qualified and experienced. Execute and honor contracts in a timely and ethical manner. Complete reports and follow up all obligations resulting from a contest in a timely manner. It is expected that game reports can be filed by 10 AM the following morning, but always within 24 hours.
- Be prepared, physically and mentally, to officiate according to the principles and philosophy promoted by MHSAA and USSF.
- Refrain from the use of tobacco or alcohol within sight of players and spectators prior to or during a contest. Refrain from the use of alcohol for the entire day prior to the contest.
- Maintain professional relationships with partners, players, coaches, administrators and spectators. Refrain from any statements or comments about any game, including statements to the media, or on social media. Social media includes written comments, photographic, video and recorded audio comments posted or shared, on any social or public site.
- Be loyal to fellow referees and never knowingly promote criticism of them, including when you are a spectator, or in any other capacity.
- Strive to achieve maximum teamwork with fellow referees, including sharing relevant information as appropriate, during a contest or during a stoppage.
- Commit to a personal lifestyle that avoids sexual misconduct, use of illicit drugs, public abuse of alcohol, and will not in other ways impinge upon your perception in the community to fulfill the obligations and standards of the MHSAA or USSF.
- Officiate according to the rules and manuals adopted for MHSAA or USSF competition. Admit and correct one’s own errors, hold to correct but unpopular decisions, and support the decisions of other officials.
- Hold to and maintain the basic tenets of officiating which include honesty, integrity, neutrality, respect, sensitivity, professionalism, discretion, and tactfulness at all times.
- Exercise self-control at all times. Guard against baiting or taunting which may generate loss of poise or demeanor, which can erode the professionalism expected of officials in even the most difficult circumstances.
- Do the utmost to assist fellow officials to better themselves and their work, at the appropriate opportunity, in a respectful and professional manner.

Failure to conform to this code of conduct is subject to review by the SWMSRA Ethics Committee and may result in removal of assignments or suspension.

Approved at the SWMSRA AGM November 2015

Feb. 19 2015 (a)