MAC Student-Athletes:

In order to ensure a positive competitive environment for our student-athletes and teams, all MAC constituents must understand and appreciate conference guidelines on sportsmanship and behavior, and the process for meeting those expectations. Please read these excerpts from the Fact Book and contact your coach or director of athletics about any questions. To verify that you have read and understand these policies and procedures, please sign and date this document and return to your director of athletics or compliance officer. The completed form remains in effect for the duration of your athletics eligibility at this institution.

**DISPUTE RESOLUTION**
MAC Fact Book
Operations
Article VII

A. Disputes regarding the rules and regulations of any particular sport must be resolved at the competition site. The referee’s decisions are final. Also there shall be no protests of judgment calls.

B. For any disputes of administration during a championship or conference contest, the following procedure has been adopted:

1. The coaches, officials, and/or game site manager should first attempt to reach resolution at the site.

2. An athletic administrator may bring the dispute to the MAC Executive Director, in writing, within three days following the championship.

3. The Executive Director will contact Athletic Directors Board members for investigation. A majority vote by the Athletic Directors Board is required for the appeal to be upheld.

4. Decisions of the Athletic Directors Board may be appealed to the Executive Committee.

5. If the timing of the appeal does not permit contact with the three Athletic Directors Board members, the Executive Director, as chief operating officer of the MAC, is empowered to act immediately on the matter.

C. For disputes unrelated to the rules and regulations of any particular sport, including but not limited to recruitment, fan behavior, and advertisement and promotion, the following procedure has been adopted:

1. Athletic directors of involved institutions should first attempt to reach resolution.

2. Issues that cannot be resolved between athletic administrators at the institutional level will be considered by the Athletics Directors Board after the MAC Executive Director receives the dispute in writing.

**SPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT**
MAC Fact Book
Executive Regulations
Article VII

A. The Conferences do not condone any unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of any student-athlete, coach, administrator, or any other individual associated with a member institution. All such persons will conduct themselves in such a manner to represent the highest level of honor, dignity, and fair play.
B. The director of athletics is responsible for promoting and controlling sportsmanship at the contest site. He or she may appoint a site manager, but that person has to have authority to make decisions and be familiar with conference and institutional guidelines. The site manager MAY NOT be involved in the competition (i.e., athletic trainer, sports information director, etc.)

C. The Conferences will not tolerate poor sportsmanship and violators are referred to the Executive Director for action. The Voting Delegates are authorized to take jurisdiction over any case referred to it by the Executive Director. The following acts are among those considered unsportsmanlike:

1. Verbal or physical abuse of an official, opposing coach or player, or Conference representative.
2. Intentional incitement of participants or spectators to abusive or violent action.
3. Use of obscene gestures, profanity, or unduly provocative language (including racist, sexist, and bigoted remarks) towards officials, opponents, or spectators.
4. Excessive criticism of any official, Conference official or personnel, another coach or team, or another institution and its personnel.
5. Violation of the conference social media standards.

D. Member institutions shall promptly notify the Executive Director and the athletic directors of any institutions involved of any action taken against any individual as a result of unsportsmanlike conduct. If a member institution believes that an individual from another institution should be disciplined for unsportsmanlike conduct, it shall notify the institution, identifying the name(s) and the details of the complaint. The recipient athletic director shall investigate the matter and notify the former institution and the Executive Director of the results of the investigation, including actions taken to discipline the individuals or the reason(s) why no action was taken.

E. At the end of each season, each head coach is to send the names of teams who did not display appropriate sportsmanship to the Executive Director. This information remains anonymous, but the Executive Director will contact a director of athletics who has a team that has significant or persistent sportsmanship violations.

F. To ensure oversight of team sportsmanship and behavior, every Conference team that travels for the purpose of intercollegiate competition with another member school shall be accompanied by a coach, or a member of the faculty, staff, or administration of that institution.

G. All members of the athletic department should be familiar with the NCAA rules on alcoholic beverages, gambling, tobacco products, and performance enhancing substances as they relate to practice, competition, and promotional activities. Students who use illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco at the site of a MAC contest are immediately disqualified. At other times, the institution imposes sanctions and reports the infraction and penalty to the Voting Delegates, who may consider further action.

SIGNATURE: _______________________________      DATE: ______________

PRINT NAME: _______________________________