



CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012
Dates Revised: 2/1/2017, 2/1/2020,
1/1/2022

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Board Structure and Description of Roles

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 2/1/2017

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

Date Revised: 1/1/2022

The CMSA Open Football League is governed by a Board made up of the following:

- Commissioner
 - o Oversees all operations of the Spring and Fall Open Flag Football leagues
 - o Attends meetings of the National Gay Flag Football League (NGFFL) on behalf of CMSA
 - o Is the primary liaison to the CMSA Board of Directors
 - o Serves as an ex-officio member of all League committees
 - o Chairs the Annual Meeting of the League on the 1st Monday of March
 - o Obtains all necessary field permits through the Chicago Park District and CMSA
 - o Manages budgets for the Spring and Fall leagues
 - o Manages registration
 - o Manages the League email account
 - o Manages the field setup/painting process
 - o Maintains relations with Pride Bowl, including the sharing of equipment, resources, and personnel
 - o Promotes a spirit of fairness and sportspersonship
 - o Chairs all Board and League Meetings in which they attend, with the exception of Committee Meetings which are led by the Committee Chair
 - o Maintains partnership between CMSA Women's League as well as other CMSA sports leagues
 - o Enforces all League policies

- Associate Commissioner
 - o Creates game schedule for Spring and Fall Open Flag Football seasons
 - o Tracks finances and spending
 - o Inventories equipment and recommends new equipment orders
 - o Prepares agendas and minutes for meetings of the Board
 - o Acts on behalf of the League in the absence of the Commissioner
 - o Establishes strategy for CMSA Open Flag Football branding and marketing presence
 - o Establishes strategy for CMSA Open Flag Football digital media presence

- General Manager, Draft
 - o Appoints and chair the Draft Committee
 - o Provides leadership to the Spring and Fall Open Flag Football Draft leagues
 - o Organizes the Spring and Fall drafts
 - o Identifies, selects, and supports team leaders
 - o Creates expectations for team leaders and promote a spirit of accountability

- General Manager, Tournament Teams
 - Provides leadership to all tournament teams
 - Appoints and chairs the Captain Selection Committee
 - Establishes which tournaments Chicago will participate in
 - Oversees team tryouts
 - Establishes a roster development process and provides input and guidance to the team captains as part of this process
 - With the team captains, establishes and enforces accountability within the teams
 - Acts as final arbitrator in the event of disputes between the captains
 - Assists the team captains in fundraising planning
 - With the team captains, establishes a plan for tournament team budgets

- Director of Officiating and Competition
 - Appoints and chairs the Competition and Safety Committee
 - Serves as League ombudsperson (discipline committee)
 - Schedules officials for all games
 - Evaluates officials
 - Trains and recruits officials
 - Submits payment requests for officials to the Commissioner
 - Maintains the Open Flag Football Rulebook (most recent NGFFL Rulebook plus Chicago Addendums) with the Competition and Safety Committee
 - Maintains a roster of eligible officials
 - Assists the Associate Commissioner in maintaining an inventory of all officials' equipment owned by the League

- Director of Sponsorships
 - Appoints and chairs the Sponsorship Committee
 - Procures sponsors for the League
 - Maintains and fosters relationships with existing sponsors
 - Identifies and cultivates relationships with new sponsors
 - Identifies fundraising opportunities in conjunction with General Manager, Tournament Teams.

- Director of Programming, Recognition, and Recruitment
 - Appoints and chairs the Programming, Recognition, and Recruitment Committee
 - Plans and coordinates a year-long social calendar
 - Oversees League recognition and awards
 - Develops recruitment strategies to foster League growth

- Women's League Liaison
 - o Acts on behalf of the CMSA Women's League
 - o Establishes a partnership between CMSA Women's League and CMSA Open League
 - o Serves as CMSA Women's League NGFFL liaison
 - o Serves on the tournament team Captain Selection Committee
 - o Partners with the Associate Commissioner and Director of Programming, Recognition, and Recruitment to create events and enhance the sense of community between the two Leagues
 - o This position to be occupied by a cisgender or transgender women that plays in the CMSA Open Flag Football League.

- Director of Player Development
 - o Appoint and chair a Player Development Committee
 - o Creates programs and opportunities for players of all levels to enhance their skills and knowledge of the sport
 - o Works with the General Manager, Draft to provide skill camps and clinics for all players
 - o Assists team leaders as needed on player development
 - o Identifies and develops new quarterbacks

The terms of all members of the Board of Directors shall be January 1st – December 31st.

All Board positions must be occupied by different individuals. Board members cannot serve in a voting capacity on any League committee.

Unless otherwise noted, all votes of the Board are done based on majority rule. The Commissioner shall only vote in the event of a tie.

The membership of all committees must be submitted and approved by majority vote of the Board.

All Board members and committee members must be members of CMSA in good standing.

For issues that may arise that are not covered by these Rules and Regulations, the Board may take action by majority vote to act in the best interest of the League.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Election of the Commissioner/Appointment of Other Officers

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 2/1/2017

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

Date Revised: 1/1/2022

Nominations for Commissioner will open 4 weeks before the Monday of Thanksgiving Week, thus 3 weeks before the election for Commissioner. The nomination period will last 5 business days. Any registered player, official, or Board member from the current League year (Jan. 1-Dec. 31) may nominate one individual to the position but may not nominate themselves. The Associate Commissioner will be responsible for collecting the nominations and conducting the election. If the Associate Commissioner is nominated and chooses to run the President of the CMSA Board of Directors will designate an individual to complete the nomination process and conduct the election.

Nominees for Commissioner must be a registered player, official, or Board member during the current League year to be eligible for nomination.

A vote will occur the Monday before the week of Thanksgiving, thus 10 days from Thanksgiving. This can be in-person, online, or a hybrid method. The process should follow the most recent CMSA Main Board election procedures. In the case where CMSA Main Board becomes in-person only, the last procedures which include an online component will be used, but those procedures may be adjusted by a majority vote of the Board of Directors in subsequent years when necessary. A person is eligible to vote if they are a CMSA member in good standing and meet any of the following criteria: (1) A registered player during the current League year (2) A referee on the roster of officials submitted by the Director of Officiating and Competition (3) A current member of the Open Flag Football Board of Directors. A person shall have only one vote regardless of how many criteria they meet for voting.

The winner of the election will be the candidate who achieves a majority of the votes cast. In the event no candidate receives a majority of the votes, a run-off will be held between the top two vote getting candidates using the same procedures as the first vote. The election is over only when a candidate has received a majority of the votes cast in the current round of voting. The run-off will be conducted automatically using a ranked voting process, if the voting tool allows.

The winner of the election shall immediately assume the role of Commissioner-Elect, before assuming office on January 1st of the following year.

Beginning no later than December 1st, the Commissioner-Elect shall conduct an open application process for the other Board positions. From these applications they shall appoint their Board for the new term. These appointments shall be presented for confirmation by the current League year membership. The appointments will be voted on individually. The vote may be electronic. A majority of the votes cast is necessary for approval.

In the event that the Commissioner is not able to complete their term, the Commissioner-Elect will assume the position. If there is no Commissioner-Elect, the Board shall elect a Commissioner from within their own membership by majority vote to serve until the remainder of the term.

For any other vacancies the Commissioner must appoint a replacement unless the vacancy occurs after October 1st, after that date it is at the discretion of the Commissioner. The appointment must be approved by a majority vote of the Board.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Competition and Safety Committee

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 2/1/2017

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

The committee shall have 5 members: The Director of Officiating and Competition plus 4 members appointed by them. Only one appointee may be a current on field official. The committee will solicit rule change proposals for the Open Flag Football Rulebook in March of each year:

- (1) Any current year League Board member, player, or game official may submit in writing a proposal to alter or clarify a rule
- (2) The committee will review all proposals and vote on each. Any proposal receiving 3 'yes' votes will be submitted to the Board of Directors for a vote
- (3) A rule change may be approved by a majority vote of the Board on an experimental basis lasting for no more than one Spring OR Fall season
- (4) The Board may also choose to submit a permanent rule change to the membership of the League. A permanent rule change must be approved by a vote of the League membership (generally at the Annual Meeting of the League). The rule requires a majority vote of those voting to be approved
- (5) If a rule change is approved, the Director of Officiating and Competition will make the appropriate changes to the Open Flag Football Rulebook.

The Competition and Safety Committee is also responsible for the League discipline process:

- (1) Determining appropriate sanctions for conduct detrimental to the League by individual players or teams
- (2) Hearing appeals of sanctions that are mandatory by League rules regarding player disqualifications or the use of ineligible players.

In the case of #1 above, the presiding officer at the hearing shall be the Director of Officiating and Competition. If they are party to the complaint they shall recuse themselves and the League Commissioner will preside. Any members of the committee shall recuse themselves for similar conflicts of interest. The Commissioner shall make a final determination on any conflict of interests. A report regarding the alleged infraction will be submitted in writing to the committee prior to the hearing. During the hearing, the individuals/teams accused of the infraction will have an opportunity to respond to the allegations. The committee shall consider all of the evidence and will determine if the respondents are responsible or not responsible for the allegation by majority vote. If the respondents are found not responsible the matter is considered closed. If found responsible, the options for sanctions are as follows:

- (1) No further sanctions
- (2) Suspension from competition
- (3) Ban from competition

The committee shall notify the respondents in writing of their decision, copying the president of CMSA. During any appeals process, the Director of Officiating and Competition and the Commissioner will decide if the sanctions will be enforced.

In the case of #2 above, after gathering the appropriate information, the committee shall vote to: uphold, modify, or overturn the sanctions. A majority vote is needed to modify or overturn the sanctions. The player shall be informed in writing as soon as possible following the conclusion of the hearing. In some cases, the player will be appealing during a day that player has a doubleheader. The player and their team leader may be informed verbally, but a follow up communication shall be sent afterwards.

All sanctions can be appealed. The Commissioner is the first appeal officer. The member may also appeal to the CMSA Board of Directors. If the Commissioner has a conflict of interest, they may ask the appeal move directly to the CMSA Board of Directors.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: League Structure

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 2/1/2017

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

The CMSA Open Flag Football League shall consist of teams made up of current CMSA members as defined by the CMSA Bylaws.

Divisions (if necessary) are made up of a minimum of 4 teams.

The General Manager, Draft will determine (with their committee) the appropriate competitive structure for the draft league.

The draft procedures must be approved by a majority vote of the Board.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Team Structure/Captains

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 2/1/2017

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

A CMSA Open Flag Football team is made up of registered players as determined by the Draft Committee and Commissioner, under the direction of team leader(s). Team leadership structure to be determined by the Draft Committee. The team leader(s) shall be the person responsible for communicating all League information to their teammates. The team leader(s) is (are) also responsible for ensuring that only registered and eligible players participate in CMSA game play.

Team leader(s) must have on file with the League a working email address and phone number.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Eligible Players

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 2/1/2017

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

An eligible player for regular season play:

- (1) Is a current year member of CMSA
- (2) Is a registered player in the Spring or Fall league of the current League year
- (3) Is not ineligible for CMSA play due to League discipline
- (4) All sexual orientations, gender, and gender identities are eligible to play.

At no time will an unregistered player be knowingly allowed to compete. Allowing an unregistered player in a game will result in the forfeiture of the game(s) in which that player participated and a 1 game suspension for the team leader(s) of that team and a 2 game suspension for the offending player. If a game official or Board member allows an unregistered player to compete, they will be subject to discipline based on the Rules and Regulations governing that position. Repeated violations may result in further sanctions.

An eligible player for tournament team play:

- (1) Is a current year member of CMSA
- (2) Is a registered player in the current season or 1 of 2 prior seasons to tournament being considered
- (3) Is not ineligible for CMSA play due to League discipline
- (4) All sexual orientations, gender, and gender identities are eligible to play
- (5) Meets all other expectations put forth by the General Manager, Tournament Teams and captains.

The General Manager, Tournament Teams may request, on behalf of the captains, a waiver to #2 above. The waiver can be granted by majority vote of the Board. If the waiver is granted, the player(s) in question must still satisfy #1, 3, 4, and 5 above before the tournament in question begins.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Scheduling – Regular Season

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 2/1/2017

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

In divisions where an unbalanced schedule is necessary, a random draw will be used to determine which teams will play each other twice.

Prior to the schedule being created a reasonable amount of time will be given for teams to make their scheduling needs known (open dates, preferred game times). Teams should understand that these are simply requests and that the League is under no obligation to accommodate these requests. In all cases the schedule will be created in a spirit of fairness and competitive balance.

The following will be considered when creating the schedule:

- (1) Avoiding doubleheader gaps of more than 1 game
- (2) Provide open dates to teams in weeks when they would be unable to field a competitive squad
- (3) Working with the Director of Officiating and Competition, determine that officials with requisite experience will be available to officiate all games during a time period
- (4) Accommodate teams scheduling preferences where it is possible to do so.

The Commissioner and Associate Commissioner have the authority to revise the schedule during the season to maintain competitive balance and fairness.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Scheduling – Playoffs

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 1/31/2016

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

Date Revised: 1/1/2022

Upon the conclusion of the regular season, a playoff schedule will be created and announced.

The playoffs will follow a single elimination bracket format. The exact format will be determined by the number of eligible teams. Any available byes will be given to the corresponding highest seeded teams.

The teams will be seeded in order of their standings following the end of regular season play.

Teams that have forfeited more than one game shall be ineligible for the playoffs.

Tiebreaker Information

In case of a tie for any place finish in the regular-season standings, the following tie-breaking procedure shall be followed in order to seed teams in the Tournament bracket. Teams that have forfeited any games during the regular season automatically lose all tiebreakers.

TWO-TEAM TIE

(1) Results of head-to-head competition during the regular season.

(2) Each team's record vs. the team occupying the highest position in the final regular season standings (or in the case of a tie for the championship, the next highest position in the regular season standings) continuing down through the standings until one team gains an advantage.

* A. When arriving at another pair of tied teams while comparing records, use each team's record against the collective tied teams as a group (prior to their own tie-breaking procedures), rather than the performance against the individual tied teams.

* B. When comparing records against a single team or a group of teams, the higher winning percentage shall prevail, even if the number of games played against the team or group is unequal (i.e., 2-0 is better than 3-1); in the case of tied percentages vs. the team or group of 1.000 or .000 the following shall apply: 2-0 is better than 1-0; 0-1 is better than 0-2.

(3) Points allowed among all games played. (4) Coin toss conducted by the Commissioner or designee.

MULTIPLE-TEAM TIE

(1) Results of head-to-head competition during the regular season.

* A. When comparing records against a single team or a group of teams, the higher winning percentage shall prevail, even if the number of games played against the team or group are unequal (i.e., 2-0 is better than 3-1); in the case of tied percentages vs. the team or group of 1.000 or .000 the following shall apply: 2-0 is better than 1-0; 0-1 is better than 0-2.

* B. After the top team among the tied teams is determined, the second team is ranked by its record among the original tied teams, not the head-to-head record vs. the remaining team(s).

(2) If the remaining teams are still tied, then each tied team's record shall be compared to the team occupying the highest position in the final regular-season standings, continuing down through the standings until one team gains an advantage.

* A. When arriving at another pair of tied teams while comparing records, use each team's record against the collective tied teams as a group (prior to their own tie-breaking procedures), rather than the performance against the individual tied teams.

* B. When comparing records against a single team or a group of teams, the higher winning percentage shall prevail, even if the number of games played against the team or group are unequal (i.e., 2-0 is better than 3-1); in the case of tied percentages vs. the team or group of 1.000 or .000 the following shall apply: 2-0 is better than 1-0; 0-1 is better than 0-2.

(3) If the remaining teams are still tied, then points allowed among all games played

(4) If the remaining teams are still tied, then use a coin toss or if more than 2 teams remain, a random draw starting with highest seed conducted by the Commissioner or designee.

In seasons that cross-division games are played, the Commissioner and the Board will determine if those games will be utilized for tiebreaking purposes on a case-by-case basis.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Game Officials

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 1/31/2016

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

Game officials will follow the mechanics manual as published by the NGFFL unless otherwise noted in writing by the Director of Officiating and Competition prior to the beginning of the season.

The expectations of all game officials are as follows:

- Knowledge of entire CMSA Open Flag Football Rulebook
- Must attend a rules meeting each Spring and Fall
- Officials provide their own uniforms. At a minimum the uniform shall include a striped referee's shirt (2" stripes)
- Professionalism in all circumstances. Officials exist to calmly arbitrate the game, not to escalate conflicts
- Officials must be on time for all assigned games.

The remuneration for game officials will be established by the Board each season.

The Director of Officiating and Competition is responsible for the hiring of all game officials. Once hired, they shall assure that all officials have submitted appropriate employment eligibility documents to the CMSA Treasurer.

The Director of Officiating and Competition shall maintain a roster of eligible officials. This will also serve as the roster of officials eligible to vote for League Commissioner.

In conjunction with the Commissioner of the League, the Director of Officiating and Competition will conduct a rules meeting each Spring and Fall with all officials. This meeting shall be mandatory for any officials who are assigned games during the upcoming season.

The Director of Officiating and Competition will maintain communication with the NGFFL Director of Officials to identify local referees who are eligible for national tournament assignments.

Scheduling of Officials

Officials are independent contractors assigned solely at the discretion of the Director of Officiating and Competition who is accountable to the Board for their decisions.

Officials shall be assigned using the following guiding principles:

- (1) Where possible, no official shall be assigned to a game where a clear conflict of interest exists. The Competition and Safety Committee will publish annually to the officials a list of such conflicts
- (2) Officials will be assigned based on merit and skill, not seniority
- (3) The decision on using 2/3/4 person crews shall be evaluated based on the individual game.

Evaluation of Officials

The Director of Officiating and Competition shall observe all head officials (white hats) a minimum of once/season and offer feedback and constructive criticism to help improve overall performance. The head officials will offer similar feedback to the officials assigned to their crew.

Team leaders will be given the opportunity to assess the officials after games throughout the season. The Director of Officiating and Competition is responsible for this process. They shall review this feedback with the Competition and Safety Committee.

Officials should be allowed every opportunity to improve. In those cases where officials are unable or unwilling to do so, the Director of Officiating and Competition shall inform them in writing of any concerns and allow a reasonable time for a response. The Commissioner of the League should be copied on these communications.

Complaints about Officials

Complaints about an official are to be made in writing to the Director of Officiating and Competition within an appropriate amount of time. In the event that the complaint concerns the Director of Officiating and Competition, the written complaint must be made to the Commissioner. Complaints must include the specific official's name and a full description of the reason behind the complaint.

The Director of Officiating and Competition shall make the Commissioner aware of any complaints about officials, and the resolution of those complaints.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Inclement Weather

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

The Commissioner or their designee shall have sole authority to cancel or suspend play due to inclement weather or adverse field conditions.

The Commissioner will enforce all Chicago Park District policies when deciding to hold games on a particular day.

It is the responsibility of the Commissioner or their designee to inform the League team leader(s) of a cancellation or suspension of play.

In the event of a lightning strike in the area of the fields, all gameplay is to be suspended until 30 minutes have passed without a lightning strike.

The Commissioner and Associate Commissioner will propose if/how any suspended or cancelled games are to be made up for approval by the Board. CMSA Open Flag Football is not required to make up any suspended/cancelled games.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Amend, Alter, or Repeal Rules and Regulations

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

Date Revised: 1/1/2022

A Board member may propose to amend, alter, or repeal the Rules and Regulations at any time. The proposal will then be voted on by the Board. If a majority vote is attained, the amendment to the Rules and Regulations will be presented to the previous year League membership at the Annual Meeting for a vote. Eligibility to vote is the same criteria as voting for Commissioner. If there's an online vote, it must occur on a single weekday within 7 days of the Annual Meeting. An amendment to the Rules and Regulations requires a 2/3rds vote of those voting. Approved bylaws become effective at the proposed start date (current or next League year) after approval by membership at the Annual Meeting.

The Commissioner may call for an emergency vote (electronically if necessary), if in their opinion, the amendment is needed to maintain the proper operations of the League.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Tournament Teams Captain Selection Committee

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 2/1/2017

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

The General Manager, Tournament Teams will serve as chair of this committee. The purpose of the committee will be to:

- Select captains for the teams that will participate in the Chicago Pride Bowl and the annual Gay Bowl
- The teams shall be known as: Chicago Freeze, Chicago Blaze, and Chicago Thunder
- Division designations will be determined by the Captain Selection Committee in conjunction with the team captains after the team captains are named
- Oversee tournament team tryouts
- Determine guidelines for roster selection (including with respect to priority of roster selection among the teams).

The General Manager will submit to the Board for approval a committee consisting of:

- The General Manager, Tournament Teams
- One member with prior experience on the Chicago Freeze
- One member with prior experience on the Chicago Blaze
- One member with prior experience on the Chicago Thunder
- One member of the Chicago women's Gay Bowl team appointed by the women's football commissioner (NB – only in years that Chicago will be represented by a women's team)

The committee will meet no later than March 1st to establish a bid process for the captain positions for each team. Unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors, this process will be publicized for a minimum of two weeks before the selection process can begin.

The captain selection process must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

No member of the committee can bid to be a captain.

The timeline should allow for tryouts to be concluded and rosters to be selected no later than May 1st. (NB – Rosters includes all people who are attending Gay Bowl on behalf of the team including designated 'coaches')

The committee will establish the expectations for membership on tournament rosters (practice schedules, playing in additional tournaments, etc.). These expectations are to be agreed upon with the captains and relayed to all team members.

Following the selection of captains, this committee shall advise on issues pertaining to tournament teams at the request of the General Manager, Tournament Teams.

If the rosters require adjustment in advance of Gay Bowl, it is the role of the General Manager, Tournament Teams to provide leadership to the captains during this process.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Finances

Date Adopted: 8/1/2012

Date Revised: 2/1/2017

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

League Operating Budget

Prior to each season, the Commissioner shall propose an operating budget for review and approval by the Board. The Board will approve the operating budget by a majority vote. All CMSA Bylaws will be followed in the drafting and execution of the League budget. The Board will make the budget available for review by League members upon request.

Accountability

Wherever possible, a request should be made for CMSA to directly pay any vendors, officials, etc. Any League member who will need a direct reimbursement must first notify the Commissioner and Associate Commissioner. The Associate Commissioner will submit reimbursements to the CMSA treasurer on behalf of the Board.

Any expense of more than \$200 must be approved by majority vote of the Board. These votes can be electronic. This excludes personnel expenses for those positions the Board has previously set a compensation schedule.

In all cases, the CMSA "Purchase approval threshold/direct payments to vendors" policy will be followed.

Individual Fees

League fees payable by individuals will be set by majority vote of the Board. Fees will be set a minimum of 6 weeks before the start of a season.

Individual fees must be paid before the player draft.

End of Season

The Commissioner and Associate Commissioner will work with the CMSA Treasurer on final reconciliation of the budget at the end of each season. This, and any final purchases, must be concluded within 45 days of the end of the season.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Sponsorship Committee

Date Adopted: 2/1/2017

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

The committee shall have at least 3 members: The Director of Sponsorship and 2 members appointed by them. They will be responsible for all efforts towards sponsorships.

The committee will submit a sponsorship strategy and budget for approval by a majority vote of the Board.

Section Title: Programming, Recognition, and Recruitment Committee

Date Adopted: 2/1/2017

Date Revised: 2/1/2020

The committee shall have at least 3 members: The Director of Programming, Recognition, and Recruitment and 2 members appointed by them. They will be responsible for all efforts towards social programming, recognition, and recruitment of new members.

The committee will submit a programming, recognition, and recruitment strategy and budget for approval by a majority vote of the Board.

Section Title: Draft Committee

Date Adopted: 2/1/2020

The committee shall have at least 3 members: The General Manager, Draft and 2 members appointed by them. They will be responsible for selecting team leaders and administering the draft.

The committee will submit the draft procedures and budget for approval by a majority vote of the Board.

CMSA OPEN FLAG FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Annual Meeting

Date Adopted: 2/1/2017

Date Revised: 1/1/2022

An Annual Meeting of the current League membership shall be convened on the 1st Monday of March.

The purpose of this meeting will be:

- A Commissioner's report to the League
- Proposing and discussing League matters such as Rule and Regulations changes or Open Flag Football Rulebook changes. If there's an online vote, it must occur on a single weekday within 7 days of the Annual Meeting.

The Board may move this meeting to another date in March.

CMSA OPEN FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section Title: Game Rules

Date Adopted: 8/1/2017

CMSA Open Flag Football will follow the current NGFFL Rulebook, with the following exceptions:

Timing

We will continue to utilize 25-minute halves, with 5-minute halftime periods.

Overtime Rule

Overtime will begin by a coin toss; the winner of the toss will be given a choice of defense, offense, or designating the end of the field to start the overtime. The loser of the toss will choose from the remaining options. All subsequent Overtime periods will be played on that end of the field.

The Line of Scrimmage will be at the 20-yard line, with no opportunities for a First Down unless a penalty enforcement occurs resulting in such.

Disqualification Rule

If a player is disqualified from a game for any reason, they are ineligible to play in the remainder of the game in its entirety. If the disqualification occurs during the second half of a game, the player will be ineligible to play the first half of their next subsequent game. This rule will never reset, so if a player is disqualified in the second half of a Season Ending Championship Game, the player will be ineligible to participate for the first half of their first game the next season in which they intend to participate.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct Rule

If a player is penalized twice for an Unsportsmanlike Conduct penalty, that player will be disqualified from the game. The same rules regarding eligibility will be followed as per the Disqualification Rule.