THE GREATER KANSAS CITY SUBURBAN ASSOCIATION OF COOPERATING SCHOOLS

ARTICLE I. NAME:

A. This organization shall be called the Greater Kansas City Suburban Association of Cooperating Schools.

B. Purpose: Exclusively Charitable and Educational within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

ARTICLE II. PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES:

A. This organization shall be composed of voluntary member schools on the Missouri side in the Kansas City suburban area. This shall be for the purpose of promoting, regulating and supervising interscholastic activities and contests as may be delegated by the member schools to the jurisdiction of the Association. Specifically, the objectives are:

1. Promotion of educational values inherent in interscholastic activities for the youth enrolled in the member schools.

2. The assurance that sponsored activities shall remain an integral part of the secondary educational program for the purpose of the development of worthwhile knowledge, skills, and proper emotional patterns in the youth enrolled in member schools.

3. The approval of direction and development of activities and contests under the jurisdiction of the Association.

4. The fostering of good sportsmanship and wholesome relations on the part of school representatives, school patrons and students among member schools.

5. The promotion of a cooperative spirit among member schools.

6. LEGISLATIVE OR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and the corporation shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

7. OPERATIONAL LIMITATIONS. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on

any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law or (b) by a corporation, contributions, to which are deductible under Section 170 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

A: *Charter Members:

1. Independence (William Chrisman*, Truman)
2. Raytown* (Raytown South)
3. Ruskin*
4. Grandview*
5. Lee's Summit* (Lee's Summit North, Lee's Summit West)
6. Blue Springs* (Blue Springs South)
7. Park Hill* (Park Hill South)
8. Liberty* (Liberty North)
9. Fort Osage*
10. Belton*
11. North Kansas City* (Oak Park, Winnetonka, Staley)
12. Raymore-Peculiar – Admitted 1992
13. St. Joseph Central – Admitted 1994
14. Kearney – Admitted 2002
15. Platte County – Admitted 2008
16. Grain Valley – Admitted 2018
17. Smithville – Admitted 2018

B. Continuous Membership:

1. Membership is continuous for all schools in good standing in the Association upon payment of annual dues.

2. Members of the conference in good standing would meet the following minimum requirements:

   a. Each member school shall make every attempt to field a minimum of 16 varsity sports. Sports offered shall be required to field a full Varsity and JV squad with the following JV exceptions: cross country, golf, swimming, tennis and wrestling.

   b. Each member school shall provide adequate and quality participation as defined in Article III B.2a.

c. Each member school shall fulfill all scheduled activities as assigned by the Suburban Conference.

d. Each member school shall provide adequate administrative supervision to ensure a safe and orderly contest environment for all home contests levels.

e. Each member school shall provide adequate administrative supervision to ensure a safe and orderly contest environment at away varsity contests in football, soccer, volleyball, basketball, softball, baseball, and wrestling.

f. Visiting supervising administrators should check in with the host school administration before the start of each contest.

g. Each member school shall pay all annual conference dues and all entry fees by the requested due date.

C. Admission and Withdrawal or Removal of Members:

1. Additional Members may be accepted by 2/3 vote of the member schools

2. Member schools may withdraw by giving one year's notice prior to the opening of school in the year in which they wish to withdraw.

3. Member schools may be removed by 2/3 vote of the member schools for failure to abide by the constitution or other standing rules and regulations of this association.

D. Voting:

Each high school shall have one vote in all policy-making decisions. The vote of the school shall be by the Superintendent of schools or his designated representatives.

E. Loss of Membership:

1. By action initiated by the Executive Committee and approved by a 2/3 vote of the member schools for the unsportsmanlike conduct of teams, coaches, students, or fans.

2. By action initiated by the executive committee and approved by a 2/3 vote of the member schools, schools who fail to abide by the Constitution or other standing rules shall be placed on probation for one year.

3. Member schools placed on probation shall be required to appear in front of the executive committee and present a plan for continuous membership.

4. By action initiated by the executive committee and approved by a 2/3 vote of the member schools, schools who fail to abide by the Constitution or other standing rules for a subsequent year may be removed from the conference.

5. Member schools who have been removed from the conference by 2/3 vote of member schools shall have 45 calendar days to appeal to the executive committee for reinstatement to the conference.

F. Dues:

1. Dues shall be based on the enrollment (K-12) of the member district as of the last day of the first reporting period of the school year.

2. Assessment shall be made at the beginning of each school year on a per pupil basis.

3. Dues shall be paid to the Executive Director of the Conference by November 1st of each year.

4. Special assessments may be approved by 2/3 vote of the member schools.

5. INUREMENT OF INCOME. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, trustees, officers or other private persons except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS: Executive Committee

A. The officers shall consist of a president and vice-president.

B. The president and vice-president shall be elected for one-year terms at the annual spring meeting. The vice-president shall automatically succeed to the presidency after one year.

C. Vacancies in the office of President or Vice-President shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

D. All vacancies occurring in any office shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V. DUTIES OF OFFICERS:

A. The president shall preside at all meeting of the organization and fill other customary obligations of the office. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

B. The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president.

ARTICLE VI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A. Membership:

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the two elected officers, the past president and three elected at-large members from the conference membership (efforts are to be made to have representation from ALL divisions). The three at-large positions are for a term of three years to be rotated annually.

B. Vacancies:

1. Vacancies occurring in members at-large shall be filled at the next regular meeting of the Executive Committee.

C. Duties:

1. Appoint all standing committees and designate the representation of teachers and administrators on each committee.

2. Administer the policies established by the member schools.

3. Make recommendations to the membership regarding the needs of the Association and the special projects to be undertaken.

4. Shall annually, at the spring meeting, recommend to the membership a candidate for the office of Executive Director of the Conference and recommend an annual salary.

5. Bi-annually study the realignment of Conference schools on the basis of enrollment in conjunction with each 2-year scheduling cycle.

6. Act in behalf of the Conference on matters of urgency when it is impossible or impractical to call a special meeting.

ARTICLE VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

A. Responsibility:

1. The Executive Director shall be directly responsible to the Executive Committee.

B. Duties:

1. Prepare a calendar of events of all member schools for all member schools and post on the Conference website annually.

2. Purchase all trophies and awards.

3. He should clear all necessary activities with the Executive Director of the MSHSAA.

4. He should handle all communications of the Conference and all communications should be directed through his office.

5. He should be able to employ whatever clerical help that is necessary within his budget.

6. The Executive Director should be appointed by the Executive Committee subject to the approval of the Conference.

7. Publicize all Conference activities.

8. The Executive Director will keep a record of all money belonging to the organization and account for the same. He shall furnish to all member schools two copies of the treasurer's statement at the annual spring meeting.

9. All other duties that the Executive Committee may direct.

C. The Executive Committee shall consider the following criteria when selecting the Executive Director:

1. Experience with the business and function of the Suburban Conference.

2. Educational experience as teacher-coach-athletic director- or administrator.

3. The ability to work with the membership and direct all conference business in a professional manner.

4. Not currently employed by member school.

D. Assistant Executive Director Responsibility:

1. The Assistant Executive Director shall be directly responsible to the Executive Director and the Executive Committee.

E. Assistant Executive Director Duties:

1. Assign varsity officials for wrestling and JV/varsity officials for both girls' and boys' volleyball. Enter officials for all conference schools as needed for swimming/diving, cross country and track into Arbiter so that schools can pay them through the Arbiter system. Oversee the assigning of varsity football, boys' and girls' basketball, and varsity baseball/softball officials with the designated assigner hired by the Conference.

2. Be a liaison between the MSHSAA, Athletic Directors, Official Associations and the Suburban Conference.

3. All other duties as the Executive Committee may direct.

F. The Executive Committee shall consider the following criteria when selecting the Assistant Executive Director.

1. Experience as an official and a member of Official's Association.

2. Educational experience as a teacher, coach, Athletic Director or Administrator.

3. The ability to work with officials and Athletic Directors in a professional manner.

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS:

A. Regular:

1. Three general meetings shall be held yearly. The organizational meeting shall be held in April of each year at a place designated by the Executive Committee. The other two meetings shall be held as called by the Executive Committee.

B. Executive:

1. Three executive meetings shall be held yearly. Meetings to precede general Conference meetings.

2. All Conference business must pass before the Executive Committee before it can be acted on by the General Conference. If the general Conference members vote to override the vote of the Executive Committee, the topic must go back to the Executive Committee for final action (within 10 days).

C. Special:

1. Special meetings may be called by the President as needed by giving ten days notice.

ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES:

A. Standing:
1. Athletics
2. Music
3. Forensics
4. Academic/Scholar

B. Special:

1. Additional committees may be appointed by the Executive Committee as needed.

C. Selection of Committee Members:

1. Each committee, as provided for in this Article, shall be composed of no less than five members and shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.

D. Organization of Committees: Reports and Meeting:

1. Each committee shall elect a chairman and have representation from each division.

2. Quorum – At least 60% of members shall be considered a quorum.

3. The chairman shall be responsible for calling and presiding at meetings that are necessary for that particular function of the Conference. Calling the meeting at a time and place that is convenient for the majority of the members.

E. Duties:

1. Each committee is to file a report with the Executive Director 15 days prior to each of the three regularly scheduled meetings of the Conference.

2. The Executive Committee will review the reports of each committee and will prepare copies of the received recommendations of each committee and send copies to each member school and committee chairman.

3. Final discussion and approval of committee reports will take place at the regularly scheduled meeting of member schools.

ARTICLE X. ADMITTANCE TO ACTIVITIES:

A. Conference schools will use district ID badges for all employees to gain admission. The ID badge will be honored at all conference activities.

B. The Greater Kansas City Suburban Association of Cooperating Schools shall issue annual passes to all Board of Education Members and spouse(s) including the board secretary and treasurer.

C. Other By-Laws:

1. Division All-Sports Champions will be determined by compiling the total points received by each school. The team with the fewest points will be Champion. The order of finish will determine the number of points. (Example: 1 point for 1st; 2 points for 2nd; etc. each school may throw out its largest score).

2. All contests must be played for a school to be determined Conference Champ, if it has a bearing on the final conference standings.

D. Debate:

CONFERENCE DEBATE TOURNEY: Schools are to serve as host and pay for judges. All four divisions will be held at the same site. Expenses are to be shared by participants.

E. Scholar Bowl

1. Goals

a. To generate interest in academic achievement as a positive personal goal for students.

b. To provide a means of school involvement for students who may not be served by existing extra-curricular activities.

c. To foster school spirit through team competition against other schools in the same conference.

d. To serve as an adjunct activity to classroom instruction.

e. To use competition as a means to bring together students from different schools so they may increase their social skills in an enjoyable activity.

f. To provide a cumulative activity in academic competition that would stimulate local competitions and runoffs thus giving added emphasis to the importance of academics.

2. General Format:

Within each Suburban Conference Division a team from each school will compete in a single round-robin competition to determine the Division Winner. (Two day competition)

3. Teams, question format, competition format, tie-breaking procedures and contest personnel responsibilities will follow the rules established by the Missouri Academic Association.

4. Competition Costs:

a. A firm will be retained to formulate, print, and secure questions.

b. Each level of competition will require the personnel listed in the Missouri Academic Association rules.

c. Plaques and medals will be purchased for all members of the Division Winning teams.

d. Entry fees may be used to defray costs. (Recommendation - $100 per school)

BY-LAWS AND GUIDELINES

I. ATHLETICS:

A. ADMISSION PRICES

ALL SPORTS	
Adults	$7.00
Students K – 12	$5.00
Pre-School	$0

B. Activity Passes:

Conference schools will use district ID badges for all employees to gain admission. The ID badge will be honored at all conference activities. Passes will be issued to School Board Members and spouses for all conference athletic contests.

LIFETIME ACTIVITY PASSES will be issued to retiring individuals meeting the following criteria:

1. Upon request, administrators and certificated personnel of Suburban Conference schools that have been involved with the extra-curricular activities of the Suburban Conference.

2. Individuals must have a minimum of 15 years employment with a member Suburban Conference school

C. Contest Starting Time:

Cross Country	Var/JV	4:00 pm
Football	Varsity	7:00 pm
Football	Junior Varsity	4:00 pm
Soccer	Junior Varsity	5:00 pm
Soccer	Varsity	6:30 pm
Volleyball	Junior Varsity	5:00 pm
Volleyball	Varsity	To Follow
Basketball	Junior Varsity	5:30 pm
Basketball	Varsity	To Follow
Wrestling	Exhibition/JV	5:00 pm
Baseball		4:00 pm
Track		4:00 pm
Tennis		4:00 pm
Golf		4:00 pm
Swimming		4:00 pm
Softball		4:00 pm

D. Conference Re-Alignment:

1. Re-alignment will occur every two years using enrollment figures provided to DESE by each school the last Wednesday in September. The figures will be confirmed with the State Department of Education by the current president of the Executive Committee.

2. The Executive Director will divide the Conference into four divisions, taking into consideration the least differential in enrollment from top to bottom within each division according to high school enrollment (grades 9-12). The Conference will have only four divisions each two-year cycle until the membership surpasses 32 schools. If more than 32 schools are conference members, divisions may be added to keep the size at a maximum of 8 schools per division with a recommended minimum of 6 in a division.

Gold Division
Red Division
White Division
Blue Division

3. Suburban Conference divisions will change only with a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee.

E. Conference Championships:

1. The Conference Championships will be determined by a conference tournament in boys and girls golf, boys and girls

swimming, boys and girls track and boys and girls cross country.

2. All other conference championships will be determined by overall conference records.

F. Officials' Guidelines and Fee Schedules

1. Officials' fees for individual games and tournaments shall follow the Suburban Conference Official Fee Schedule.

2. When two officials are contracted and only one reports, the working official is to receive 1 ½ fees.

3. If officials are not notified in advance, contracts must be honored. (Ex. = V/JV doubleheader contracted but decide not to play JV game, officials receive full pay for the doubleheader).

4. It is the responsibility of the host schools to decide if a game must be canceled. (All of the above recommendations are subject to the rules of the MSHSAA).

G. Membership Dues:

Dues currently are $ .85 per student (K-12) using the number reported to the State Department of Education each fall.

H. Postponed or non-played Conference athletic contest:

When a conference athletic contest is postponed or not played at the original schedule time, regardless of the reason, the home school shall be responsible for re-scheduling the contest. In the event there is an impasse between the two schools involved in the re-scheduling of the contest, an appeal shall be made to the Executive Director of the conference for a decision.

I. Sportsmanship:

1. The Suburban Conference shall encourage a pre-game meeting between coaches, officials, and principals of host and guest schools. The purpose of the meeting is to:
    a. Make introductions

    b. Reaffirm support for each other in their responsibility.

    c. Indicate the location of principals during the contest.

d. If problems arise during the contest, the group may want to meet after to discuss the problem.

2. The Suburban Conference will permit signs and posters with positive content at athletic contests.

   a. Signs and posters will support only the writer's school.

   b. Signs and posters will make no reference to the opponent in a negative or derogatory way.

   c. All signs and posters must be approved for display by the principal of the host school.

   d. Questions regarding content of signs and posters on display should be discussed at the pre-game meeting.

3. The Suburban Conference will support efforts to identify acceptable crowd behavior of students and spectators in attendance at athletic contests.

   a. Students will be encouraged to respect opponents during introductions. **Unsportsmanlike actions will not be permitted.**

   b. Degrading cheers, chants, yells, booing, or songs directed at the **players, coaches, or officials** will not be permitted.

   c. Officials will report to principal's students whose behavior is a distraction to the contest. Principals will take appropriate actions in dealing with the problems at the proper time to avoid creating a disturbance during the contest.

4. Coaches shall be encouraged by conference high school principals to set examples of good sportsmanship with players. Coaching behavior shall be exemplary as well. High school principals of Conference schools should require coaches and **Athletic Directors** to meet with parent booster groups and student groups to help support the concept of good sportsmanship. Coaches should advise parents and students of rules' changes and encourage support for good sportsmanship conduct at contests.

5. Each division (Gold, Silver, Red, White, Blue) will meet at least every two years to review sportsmanship guidelines. Athletic Directors and Principals should be present at this meeting.

6. The Suburban Conference shall encourage administrators or staff to wear identification badges when supervising home or away contests.

J. Guidelines for Reporting of Schools Not Meeting Suburban Conference Minimum Requirements.

1. Schools that are unable to meet the Suburban Conference minimum membership requirements shall be responsible for reporting their non-compliance in writing to the Executive Director of the conference and the affected school(s).

2. Schools not notified of the non-compliance should report the infraction in writing to the Suburban Conference Executive Director.

K. Suburban Conference All-Conference Selection

1. A meeting must be held to select the All-Conference team for each sport: the Conference Championship Team is responsible for hosting the meeting within two weeks of the final conference contest and sending a copy of the results to the Executive Director and local papers after it has been approved for publication.

2. Each conference school must provide a representative at the conference selection meetings.

3. The Athletic Director from the conference championship school is responsible to oversee the conference selection meeting.

4. The Suburban Conference All-Conference selection process will be formally reviewed every four years. The next formal review will be during the 2029-2030 school year.

5. Any student athlete that is nominated and receives a minimum of one vote, but does not receive enough votes to earn 1st or 2nd team, shall receive honorable mention recognition. It will be accepted that each head coach may give honorable mention recognition to one athlete that was nominated but did not receive a vote.

6. There can be no ties. All ties must be broken by a vote of the coaches present at the meeting. Coach of the Year award and a Player of the Year award may be chosen at the discretion of the coaches in each division.

7. The conference coaches, guided by statistical information from only conference division games, will use the following numbers for selecting the All-Conference student-athletes for each sport:

Football: 13 offensive players on 1st team
13 defensive players on 1st team
1 placekicker and 1 punter on 1st team
13 offensive players on 2nd team
13 defensive players on 2nd team
1 placekicker and 1 punter on 2nd team
Honorable mention selected as outlined in paragraph 5 above.

Cross Country: 1st-7th runners on 1st team
8th-14th runners on 2nd team
15th-21st runners honorable mention

Soccer: 13 players on 1st team
13 players on 2nd team
Honorable mention selected as outlined in paragraph 5 above.

Tennis: 6 players on 1st team singles
6 players (3 doubles teams) on 1st team doubles
6 players on 2nd team singles
6 players (3 teams) on 2nd team doubles
Honorable mention selected as outlined in paragraph 5 above.

Swimming: 1st-4th place – 1st team all- conference
5th-8th place – 2nd team all-conference
No honorable mention.

Track: 1st-4th place – 1st team all- conference
5th-8th place – 2nd team all-conference
No honorable mention.

Wrestling: 14 wrestlers – 1 each weight class – 1st team
14 wrestlers – 1 each weight class – 2nd team
Honorable mention selected as outlined in paragraph 5

above.

Volleyball:	9 players to 1st team 9 players to 2nd team Honorable mention selected as outlined in paragraph 5 above.
Basketball:	7 players on 1st team 7 players on 2nd team Honorable mention selected as outlined in paragraph 5 above.
Golf:	1st-5th players – 1st team 6th-10th players – 2nd team 11th-15th players on honorable mention
Baseball & Softball	11 players – 1st team 11 - 2nd team Honorable mention selected as outlined in paragraph 5 above.

L. TV and Radio Broadcasts Guidelines:

1. Refer to MSHSAA guidelines.

ARTICLE XI. ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPANTS:

The activities of this association shall be governed by the Constitution and By-Laws of the M.S.H.S.A.A., the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association and such other rules and regulations as it deems necessary.

ARTICLE XII. ADMENDMENTS:

This Constitution may be amended by a 2/3 vote of all member high schools at any regular or special meeting when due notice has been given as provided for in Article VIII.

ARTICLE XIII. DISSOLUTION CLAUSE:

Upon dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Trustees shall, after paying or making provisions for payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501 © (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Trustees shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the

Court of Common Pleas of the count in which the principle office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Suburban Conference Constitution
Adopted: May 16, 1962
Revised: 1987, 2003, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023, 2025, 2026