**Introduction:** Intramural Sports are intended primarily to afford an opportunity for experiential learning through athletic participation for the entire Midland College community. The Midland College Intramural Sports Program provides Midland College students, faculty and staff the opportunity to participate in a variety of organized, competitive activities throughout each academic year. We serve to cultivate lifetime recreational skills, to integrate the Midland College Community socially in a sports setting, and to foster a spirit of sportsmanship and fair play among participants and spectators. Intramural Sports offer a variety of opportunities for individuals of all abilities. Activities are organized on both a team and individual basis, and a full schedule of events is offered for both the Fall and Spring Semesters.

Individuals and organizations participating in Intramural Sports should do so with the attitude that good sportsmanship and fair play are an integral part of the activity. The rules and procedures set forth in this publication will be used as guidelines to apply toward the Intramural Sports Program. The Student Life Office/Intramural Coordinator reserves the right to amend, alter, or dissolve any of these guidelines or rules for the enhancement of the program. All participants are expected to comply with the spirit as well as the letter of the rules.

The Student Life Office and Midland College assumes absolutely no responsibility for injuries related to Intramural Sports participation. It is advised that all participants acquire student health or comparable insurance before participating. A waiver of liability is standard on every event’s entry form, and individuals who do not sign the form will not be eligible for participation. It is the individual’s responsibility to ascertain whether their health may be adversely affected by participating in any physical activity. This is not the responsibility of the Intramural Sports Program, the staff, Midland College, Board of Directors, or the State of Texas.

**How to Enter:** To enter any activity, please follow the suggested guidelines:

Check the Intramural website at [http://www.midland.edu/life/intramurals.php](http://www.midland.edu/life/intramurals.php) or come by the Intramural Coordinator’s office for information pertaining to entry dates and schedules for all activities.

Team, individual, and dual sport entries will be accepted in the Student Life Office until the posted deadline.

Free Agents- If you desire to play a team sport but do not have an entire team, please come by the Intramural Coordinator’s office and sign up on the “free agent” list. Team captains will be able to review the sheet and select individuals to play with their team. If enough individuals are listed on the sheet, the Intramural Coordinator will create a team of free agents.

**How to Organize and Manage:** Clubs, Independent Organizations, and Residence Halls should choose a team captain to be in charge of Intramurals. The captain should come by the Intramural Coordinator’s office to obtain information that they will need to pass on to the other members of their organization/team. The designated captain will be the point of contact for all official Intramural Sports business, including weather conditions, tournament status, or protest decisions.
Assumption of Risk: Individuals are highly encouraged to have a physical examination and obtain adequate health and accident insurance **PRIOR TO PARTICIPATION in INTRAMURAL activities.** Individuals that participate in intramural activities will be doing so at their own risk. Neither Midland College nor the Student Life Office can assume the responsibility for injuries incurred during practice for, or participation in, any Intramural activity. Participation is on a strictly voluntary basis. All participants injured during an Intramural activity are required to report the accident to a game supervisor immediately.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS PROGRAM PARTICIPATION CONCEPT

The Intramural Sports Program is designed to match equally skilled participants in various activities to meet physical as well as recreational needs. Team, individual, and dual competition will take place in the following divisions: Men’s, Women’s, and Co-Rec. Awards for active participation and success should not be the only goal in an Intramural Program, but such awards do add to the competitive spirit of such an activity. It is with this idea in mind that Student Life will offer awards to the Midland College Champions in each sport.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR INTRAMURAL COMPETITION

The Intramural Coordinator reserves the right to put into effect emergency rules relative to the program in order that the program might function in a secure manner.

ELIGIBILITY RULES

*** ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST PRESENT A VALID MIDLAND COLLEGE ID CARD TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY INTRAMURAL ACTIVITY. ***

College Status: All students who are currently enrolled at Midland College are eligible to participate.

Faculty and Staff: All currently employed Midland College faculty and staff are eligible for intramural competition.

Co-Rec. Activities: All eligible students, faculty, and staff may participate in co-rec. activities.

Eligibility Investigation: The Intramural Sports Staff will assume responsibility for investigating eligibility for all participants upon request by the offended team (See Protest Rules). **NOTE:** Any individual that the Intramural Sports Staff deems to be ineligible will not be allowed to participate.

Varsity Athletics: Any person whose name appears on an official squad list, who has suited out for any game, or continues to work out with a varsity team (including red-shirt players) after the first intercollegiate game shall be considered a varsity athlete and ineligible for intramural competition in that sport, or related sport.

Rosters: Teams may have an unlimited number of individuals on the team roster. In order for an individual to be considered eligible for intramural competition, his/her name must appear
on the team roster prior to competition. Additions to the team roster must be made by the team manager and before the last regular season game. Deletions may be made at anytime; however, if an individual is deleted from the roster, he/she is ineligible to compete in that division for the remainder of the regular season and play-offs unless an official roster transfer was completed.

**Competing on Two Teams:** Players having participated with one intramural team are ineligible to play for another team within that division in that sport. All properly protested teams will forfeit their games due to use of an ineligible player. *Exception: Individuals may play both in the men’s or women’s as well as the co-rec. division.*

**Roster Transfer:** Any individual wishing to transfer from one team to another must be approved by the Intramural Coordinator prior to the completion of the second week of the regular season. There will be no team transfer by individuals during elimination tournaments.

**Play-off Eligibility:** In order to be eligible for the play-offs in a sport, an individual must have played in at least one game during the regular season and have his or her name on the team’s roster prior to the start of the play-off season. *Note: If a team is scheduled to play a game where their opponent defaults or forfeits, the team members are still required to sign in with the Intramural Staff member indicating they were present.*

**Ineligible Player:** Any person participating in an intramural activity without his/her name and student identification number on the team’s roster or found in violation of the Rules and Regulations of Intramural Sports shall be deemed ineligible. The following penalties shall apply:

1. Any person participating in an Intramural activity found to be ineligible shall be suspended from that activity for the remainder of the season.
2. Any team using an ineligible player shall forfeit the game in which the ineligible player participated provided the contest was properly protested.
3. A player competing under an assumed name will be suspended from intramural competition for the remainder of the season and placed on probation for the remainder of the school year. Violation of probation may result in expulsion from the program.
4. The team using an ineligible player with an assumed name shall be suspended from that activity for the remainder of the season and placed on probation for the remainder of the school year. Violation of probation may result in expulsion, of that team and/or each player on the roster, from the program.

**PROPER EQUIPMENT/ATTIRE**

For ease of all participants involved, rules governing equipment and attire will be followed. Proper attire consists of closed toe shoes, shirt, and shorts/sweat pants. Participants wearing inappropriate attire will not be permitted to play. The Intramural Staff reserves the right to rule on the legality of all equipment/attire questions for all events.
- Denim material shorts/pants are not allowed at any time for any event.
- Pockets and belt loops of any kind are not allowed at any time for any event.
- Jewelry including but not limited to: piercings, watches, bracelets, and necklaces of any material are not allowed during any competition. Piercings cannot be covered with any material; they must be removed for the safety of all participants.
- A sports bra is not considered a shirt or proper torso clothing.
- Cleats must be made of a malleable rubber. All other cleat types are illegal.
- Proper safety equipment standard for all sports is highly recommended (guards, mouthpiece, pads, etc.) but not a requirement for participation.
- Hair adornments may not be made of a hard or unyielding material.
- Joint braces may be worn but any metal on the brace must be covered with a soft pad in order to prevent injury to other participants.
- Casts – participants will not participate while any part of their body is held in a plaster or other hard cast. No exceptions; and these cannot be covered. Participants may, however, choose to play with a part of their body held in a soft wrap.

**Jerseys/Shirts:** In order to play, teams must wear shirts of the same color (I.E. light blue is not the same as dark blue). All shirts/jerseys must have legible numbers on at least one side (back or front of shirt) and must be legible from a distance of 6 feet. Taped on numbers are not allowed. No two teammates may have the same shirt/jersey number. If a player is #0 then it must appear on the jersey. In the event two teams arrive wearing the same color and are unable to switch to a different color, or a team does not wish to purchase their own shirt/jersey, jerseys will be available.

**EXTRAMURAL TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION**

**Extramural Tournament Participation:** In order to be eligible for extramural tournament participation, an individual must be a Midland College student enrolled in at least 6 hours, maintain a minimum of a 2.0 cumulative G.P.A., be in good standing with the College, must not have been ejected during that sport season, and must not have demonstrated repetitive unsportsmanlike behavior in any intramural sports activity. Participants must comply with all Midland College Policies and Procedures regarding student travel.

**FORFEITS/CANCELLATIONS**

**Forfeit Policy:** If a team fails to appear at the scheduled location, the official will declare the contest a forfeit using the following procedures:

1. A team will have a 10-minute grace period from the scheduled game time to arrive with the minimum number of players to avoid a forfeit. At the scheduled game time, the manager/scorekeeper will start the game clock. If the team is not ready to begin play,
the offended team will receive one (1) point per minute. When the team arrives with the minimum number of players and is ready to begin play, the score will reflect the point(s) awarded due to the lateness of the team, and the clock will continue to run. If the team has not arrived within 10 minutes, they will forfeit the game. The game score will be 10 – 0.

2. The winning team must record its lineup for the forfeited game and must have at least the minimum number of players to participate. NOTE: Officials will not be used during a forfeited game.

3. The team that forfeits will receive a Loss by Forfeit (LBF) recorded against their record. A team with two (2) or more forfeits will be dropped from the league.

4. In the event of a double forfeit, both teams will receive a Loss by Forfeit (LBF) recorded against their record. A team with two (2) or more forfeits will be dropped from the league.

Request to Cancel: A team that has a regular season or playoff conflict may “request to cancel” as opposed to forfeiting the contest. To “request to cancel”, the team captain or team representative must visit the Intramural Coordinator’s Office and fill out a Request to Cancel Form no later than 24 hours before the day of the game. The contest is recorded as a loss by the defaulting team. The team will not be charged with a forfeit if this option is utilized.

Weather Conditions: No decision of whether to play or cancel the games will be made until 3:00 p.m. on the day of the inclement weather. Regular season contest will not be rescheduled due to poor weather conditions or the subsequent poor facility conditions. Captains will be notified of all cancelled games, and it will be posted on the Midland College Intramural website.

PROTESTS

***No protest will be considered if the following procedures are not followed.***

Protests: Protests involving rule interpretations or player eligibility will be considered but judgment calls by the official will not receive consideration. All game protests must be made at the time of the incident in question. They must be made before the next play has occurred or the game has continued past the time of the incident (ball becomes live again).

Rule Interpretation

a) Rule interpretation may be protested during any Intramural event in which there are Intramural officials calling the event.

b) If a team believes an Intramural official has misinterpreted a rule, they may protest by calling a time-out and specifically asking for a protest. At this time, an Intramural Staff member will hear the protest and make his/her ruling.
c) Should the protest be upheld, the team will be reissued the time-out and the adjustment will be made according to the rule.
d) Should the protest be denied, the team will forfeit its time-out and the game will continue as called.
e) The decision of the Intramural Staff is final.

Official Judgment

a) Judgment cannot be protested.
b) If an official ruling has been made following the established rules of the event, his/her ruling cannot be protested.
   EXAMPLE: FLAG FOOTBALL
   a) Rule Interpretation – Official rules that a pass was incomplete because the player only had one foot inbounds at the time of initial possession.
   b) Official Judgment – Official rules that a pass was incomplete because the player’s foot was on the line at the time of initial possession.
   c) Example a) can be protested; example b) cannot be protested.

Player Eligibility

Protest concerning player eligibility must be made to the Intramural Staff before, during, or immediately following the contest in question to receive consideration. All protests of eligibility must be submitted using the appropriate document to the Intramural Coordinator by 12:00 p.m. (noon) the next business day following the game or match that is being protested. The Intramural Coordinator will rule on the protest the day following the contest in question. Neither contest brackets nor event schedules will be postponed because of this protest. If an immediate decision is required, an Intramural Staff member will resolve the situation.

Team Captain’s Obligations and Responsibilities

Team captains are responsible for knowing all policies and procedures published herein, printed on intramural entries, notices or flyers, etc. and information covered in any meetings.

Team captains are responsible for the conduct of all his/her team members and spectators before, during and after each intramural contest, as well as ensuring those individuals adhere to the policies listed in this manual. Since team captains assume responsibility for the conduct of their players and spectators, they should be aware that inappropriate conduct would jeopardize their personal and team’s future participation.

Team captains must ensure there will be enough registered participants present at each game to avoid a forfeit. Captains should contact the Intramural Coordinator at least 24 hours before the scheduled game time to cancel a game.
It is the team captain’s responsibility to ensure his/her team wears the proper attire for personal health and safety. (See Proper Equipment/Attire)

Team captains are responsible for all team interaction with Intramural Sports employees, and representing their team in all intramural matters and game concerns with the Intramural Coordinator. Non-managers or non-captains are not allowed to discuss or argue an official’s call – which could result in a warning towards the player and team up to player ejection or team forfeit. Arguing is defined at the official’s discretion.

Team captains are responsible for checking the intramural schedule board and website for regular season and play-off information. Schedules are subject to change due to facility availability, inclement weather, and special events. Team captains are also responsible for identifying and notifying their team of all scheduling information (date, time, place, changes, etc.).

CONDUCT OF TEAM, INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANT, COACH, AND SPECTATORS

**Sportsmanship:** A part of the philosophy of Intramural Sports is that good sportsmanship is vital to the conduct of every contest. In order to encourage proper conduct during games, officials, managers, and administrative personnel shall make decisions as to warn, penalize, or eject players, coaches, teams, and/or spectators for poor sportsmanship. These decisions are final. The Intramural Coordinator will rule further penalties to be prescribed as a result of unsportsmanlike conduct; profanity; unnecessary delay of game; striking or shoving an opponent; threatening, shoving or striking an official; arguing with officials; derogatory and abusive remarks toward an opponent or official; and any action with the intent to physically injure an opponent. The team manager is responsible for the actions of any individual member of the team and for spectators directly related to that team. The conduct of the players and spectators before and after games is as important as the conduct at these times as well as during the game.

All participants and spectators are expected to behave in a manner that does not obstruct or disrupt any normal function of an Intramural Sports activity or the duties of any Midland College official.

All Midland College students will be held accountable to the Midland College Code of Student Conduct, as published by the Midland College Catalog and Handbook.

All Midland College faculty and staff will be held accountable to the Professional Code of Conduct, as outlined by the Midland College Employee Handbook.

All other members permitted to participate in Intramural Sports will be held accountable to the authorities as deemed appropriate for the situation at hand.
Any team or individual may be removed from participation if he/she/they appear to be a threat to the safety of the Intramural Staff or its participants. The Intramural Coordinator will decide upon final disciplinary judgments regarding Intramural Sports participation.

The use of alcohol, tobacco, and/or federally controlled substances at any Intramural Sports activity is strictly prohibited. Any person perceived to be, or shows signs of being, under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, or federally controlled substances at an Intramural Sports activity will be asked to leave immediately. Violators will be reported to the appropriate authorities and may be banned from attending any Intramural Sports activity indefinitely.

Use of profanity, obscene or vulgar language/actions, discriminating slurs, or other adverse language will not be tolerated. Any participant or spectator using such language or performing such acts will be removed from the playing area/facility. Any violator will be reported to the appropriate authority, and may be banned from attending any Intramural Sports activity indefinitely.

Verbal attacks or harassment of any nature toward a spectator or participant will result in the removal of the violator, and may result in the violator being reported to the appropriate authority.

Verbal attacks or harassment of any nature toward any Intramural Sports Employee (including officials) will result in immediate ejection and a minimum one week suspension. All actions and involved parties will be reported to the appropriate authority. The Intramural Coordinator will decide upon final disciplinary judgments regarding Intramural Sports participation.

Physical attacks of any nature toward a spectator, participant, or personal property will result in a minimum one year suspension. All actions and involved parties will be reported to the appropriate authorities and may be banned from attending any Intramural Sports activity indefinitely. Any incident of this nature will be reported to the Midland College Dean of Student Services, Human Resources Office, and/or Police Department.

Physical attacks of any nature toward any Intramural Sports Employee (including officials) will result in an immediate ejection and suspension from Intramural Events for a period of no less than one year. All actions and involved parties will be reported to the appropriate authorities and may be banned from attending any Intramural Sports activity indefinitely. Any incident of this nature will be reported to the Midland College Dean of Student Services, Human Resources Office, and/or Police Department.
EJECTIONS

- Any participant or spectator, at the discretion of the Intramural Sports Staff including officials, who is not participating in the spirit of Intramural Sports competition, may be ejected at any time from the game and/or facility.
- Students are encouraged to review all due process/disciplinary procedures outlined in the Student Catalog and Handbook.
- Depending on the severity of the case additional penalties can and will take precedence over the penalties listed below. These penalties may include being dismissed from Midland College.

Mandatory Penalties:

1. Ejections may be issued without warning.
2. Any individual who is ejected from a contest must leave the facility (sight and sound) immediately upon notification if deemed to be disorderly by an Intramural Staff member or official.
3. No individual may participate in any intramural activity during his/her suspension.
   
   NOTE: All suspensions of any length will carry over to the next academic period if necessary.

Violation: Shoving, striking, or physically abusing an official or manager.
Penalty: Automatic suspension from Intramural activities for one (1) full calendar year along with a mandatory meeting with the Intramural Coordinator. The team captain may also receive sanctions. NOTE: This includes being reported to the Dean of Student Services, Human Resources Office and/or Midland College Police Department.

Violation: Ejection from a game.
Penalty: Possible suspension of up to one week from time violator meets with the Intramural Coordinator and probation for remainder of that sport season. Additional penalties may be sanctioned depending upon severity of incident. The team captain may also receive sanctions. NOTE: Each case heard separately by the Intramural Coordinator and/or his/her representative.

Violation: Ejection due to fighting. (Individuals)
Penalty: Automatic suspension of up to one year from time of incident and probation for two years along with a mandatory meeting with the Intramural Coordinator. Additional penalties may be sanctioned. The team captain may also receive sanctions. NOTE: Each case heard separately by the Intramural Coordinator and/or his/her representative.

Violation: Sidelines emptying onto playing field. (Teams)
Penalty: Automatic forfeit of game by both teams and mandatory meeting of team captains with the Intramural Coordinator and possible suspension of all activities for the remainder of the year. The team captain may also receive sanctions. NOTE: Each case heard separately by the Intramural Coordinator and/or his/her representative.
Violation: Ejection or misconduct during or after last game of season in a sport.
Penalty: Possible suspension from all Intramural Sports activities during and including the next major team sport as well as the next team sport in which the participant was ejected. The team captain may also receive sanctions. NOTE: Each case heard separately by the Intramural Coordinator and/or his/her representative.

Violation: Continuous evidence of unsportsmanlike conduct by individuals, teams, or organizations.
Penalty: Possible suspension from Intramural Sports for the remainder of semester and/or year. The team captain may also receive sanctions. NOTE: Each case heard separately by the Intramural Coordinator and/or his/her representative.

Disciplinary Cases: Individuals or teams violating the rules and regulations of the Midland College Intramural Program will be held accountable for their actions. Violations may result in, at minimum, a probationary letter or a maximum penalty of indefinite suspension following review by the Intramural Coordinator.

Procedures following an ejection:

1. The individual who was ejected must contact the Student Life Office to schedule an appointment with the Intramural Coordinator.
2. The suspension imposed by the Intramural Coordinator will begin immediately following the scheduled meeting.
3. Individuals may not participate in any intramural sporting event during their suspension.