

Manitoba Arm Wrestling Association Constitution

Revised JUNE 2024

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the organization shall be the MANITOBA ARM WRESTLING ASSOCIATION, hereinafter referred to as the MAWA.

ARTICLE II: ORGANIZATIONAL PURPOSE

Section 1

MAWA is a non-profit organization. The business purpose of the MAWA is to advocate on behalf of the athletes, oversee organization, promotion, and refereeing of the sport of arm wrestling in the Province of Manitoba.

Section 2

Setting out guidelines, policies and by-laws for arm wrestling within the regions of the Province of Manitoba.

Section 3

Establishing a method of funding for the MAWA.

Section 4

Establishing that all guidelines, policies and by-laws rules and regulations are being maintained by all governed bodies of the MAWA. Any dispute in interpretation of the constitution, policies and by-laws will be handled by the Executive Committee.

Section 5

Maintaining a close contact with the Canadian Arm- Wrestling Federation (CAWF) and coordinating communication with the National Federation.

Section 6

Collecting sanctioned fees for MAWA and forwarding the appropriate membership fees for the MAWA and to CAWF to ensure annual voting membership remains in good standing.

Section 7

The model promotes equality within the organization, enforce the Code of Ethics guidelines and the Ethics Advisory Committee that maintains the authority to investigate various abuse issues as outlined in the Code of Ethics.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Commented [SV-CoCS-C1]: Membership fees no longer applied. Updated to describe collection of sanction fees

Commented [SV-CoCS-C2]: New section dealing with Code of Ethics guidelines and EAC maintaining authority to investigate various issues

The MAWA shall have members who may be individual athletes, firms, associations, groups, institutions, businesses, and other like agencies. There shall be one class of member.

Section 2

Membership can be secured by demonstrating interest in the aims of the MAWA through applying for membership and paying prescribed fees, such as payment of an entry arm fee at a sanctioned MAWA armwrestling tournament. Membership fee paid entitles holder to voting privileges at the Annual General Meeting (see eligibility to vote at Article VII: Annual General Meeting, Section 6).

Commented [SV-CoCS-C3]: membership fee described as a payment of an entry arm fee at a sanction MAWA Armwrestling tournament and included the eligibility to vote section

Section 3

Any member of the MAWA may withdraw from the MAWA by written notice to the MAWA Executive Committee, but upon such withdrawal the member shall not be entitled to a refund of any portion of the fees that has been paid.

Section 4

ALL members of the MAWA are expected to abide by the CAWF Code of Ethics and are pressed to utilize the Ethics Advisory Committee as a means to resolve abuse issues, if MAWA Executive are unable to resolve such issues on their own, by following the Provincial policy and procedures of the in relation to the Ethics Advisory Committee as posted on the website. <https://cawf.ca/ethics-advisory-committee>

Commented [SV-CoCS-C4]: deleted suspension or expel any member in its entirety and replaced with CAWF code of ethics and EAC procedures.

The MAWA Executive Committee shall keep the decision confidential and only let other members know on a need-to-know basis.

ARTICLE IV: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1

The supervision and control of the MAWA shall reside in the hands of the Executive Committee.

Section 2

The Executive Committee shall be comprised of a minimum of seven (7) officers.

Section 3

Any vacancy in the Executive Committee shall be filled by appointment for the balance of the term by the MAWA Executive Committee.

Section 4

The office of a member of the Executive shall be vacated if:

1. the person ceases to be a member of the MAWA, or
2. by notice in writing to the MAWA Executive, person resigns from post, or
3. on death, or
4. a consequence of a serious incident contrary to the CAWF Code of Ethics.

Commented [SV-CoCS-C5]: new section about how an executive could vacate their seat on the board

Section 5

The officers shall serve without remuneration when carrying out the executive duties and no officer shall directly or indirectly receive any profit from their position as such.

ARTICLE V: DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1

The supervision and control of the MAWA shall be managed by the Executive Committee.

Section 2

The Executive Committee shall have the power to authorize expenditures on behalf of MAWA from time to time to further the objectives of MAWA and the sport of armwrestling in the Province of Manitoba.

Section 3

The Executive Committee shall take such steps as they may deem fit to enable MAWA to acquire, accept, solicit or receive legacies, gifts, grants, in-kind donations, or sponsorships of any kind whatsoever for the purpose of furthering the objectives of MAWA and the sport of armwrestling in the Province of Manitoba.

Section 4

The Executive Committee shall appoint a MAWA member as Treasurer whose responsibility is to conduct daily financial businesses for MAWA. The Treasurer will not have voting rights at the general meetings of the Executive Committee, unless the appointment is given to an executive. It will be their responsibility to present an annual financial report at the AGM or whenever is required by the executives. The Treasurer will conduct their businesses within a budget approved by the Executive Committee and a detailed accounting of assets and expenditures will be given at the AGM. If they cannot attend or participate in their duties, a proper designate will be appointed by the Executive Committee.

Section 5

Any member of the Executive Committee who is regularly absent or neglects their duties, unless for valid reasons, can be replaced. This will be decided by an absolute majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 6

The Executive Committee may have general meetings from time to time, in-person or online, to deal with MAWA business and/or review, update policies and by-laws. Outcomes of said meetings are logged as minutes of a meeting and shared with the directors within a reasonable time frame, as well as shared at the AGM or sooner, if the situation is plausible. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be 50%.

Section 7

The Executive Committee shall be solely responsible for proper recognition of those who excel in the sport of Armwrestling or in the promotion of the MAWA.

Section 8

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for hosting an annual family friendly Manitoba Provincial Championships.

ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Commented [SV-CoCS-C6]: Brand new Article in dealing with the Duties of the Executive Committee. Power to authorize expenditures. Accepting donations. Appointing treasurer. Conducting general meetings from time to time. Hosting a family friendly provincials championships

Section 1

The officers of the MAWA shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, and (5) five Directors.

Section 2

The officers shall be elected by the membership from amongst the members at the Annual General Meeting by majority vote. Any person can let their name stand for office.

Commented [SV-CoCS-C7]: Added new language to allow directors to let their name stand for office

Section 3

The officers shall be elected for a term of (2) two years.

Section 4

The President shall be a non-voting member of the Executive Committee, but will cast a deciding vote in the event of a tie. Duties of the President are as follows:

Commented [SV-CoCS-C8]: Updated duties of the President

1. Chair the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and follow proper parliamentary debates.
2. Be responsible to gather all information necessary to compile the agenda for the AGM and distribute the agenda to the membership at the same time the Manitoba Provincial Championship is announced.
3. Render a written report at the AGM on the activities of the organization.
4. Shall perform all duties of a Director.
5. Be privy to the report of the EAC as outlined in Article III: Membership, Section 5.
6. In the preceding sections, in the event that the President cannot attend or participate in any of the functions of the MAWA, the Vice-President will be the designated representative. If the Vice-President is also unable to attend a proper designate will be appointed. This appointment has to be in writing and shared with the Executive Committee.

Section 5

The Vice-President shall perform all of the duties of the President in his/her absence as required. The Vice-President shall also perform all duties of a Director.

Section 6

The Directors shall be responsible to promote the sport of Armwrestling and promote MAWA through organizing and running no less than one (1) sanctioned armwrestling tournament event per calendar year within the Province of Manitoba.

Section 7

A Referee-in-Chief will be elected by the MAWA Executive Committee and memberships at the AGM. Every CAWF Master Referee residing in Manitoba shall have the chance to be a candidate for the Referee-in-Chief position. If no CAWF Master Referee is available or willing to accept the position, a CAWF Level 3 is eligible and could be nominated for the position. The Referee-in-Chief will serve as an advisor to the MAWA Executive Committee and will not have voting rights at general meetings of the Executive Committee. Duties of the Referee-in-Chief are as follows:

Commented [SV-CoCS-C9]: Added new section for Referee-in-Chief. Serve as an advisor to the MAWA Executive. Duties have been outlined.

1. The Referee-in-Chief ensures there are required qualified referees for MAWA sanctioned tournaments.

2. The Referee-in-Chief ensures that each referee who officiates a MAWA sanctioned tournament, submits a referee report card after each tournament.
3. The Referee-in-Chief must keep a record of all his/her referees, their training and experience.
4. The Referee-in-Chief is responsible to properly interpret the CAWF/MAWA Rules and to ensure they are carried out in a professional and orderly manner during a MAWA sanctioned tournament. This includes the CAWF Code of Ethics.
5. The Referee-in-Chief is responsible to ensure that the proper technical equipment is used at MAWA sanctioned tournaments.
6. The Referee-in-Chief is responsible for organising an annual Manitoba Referee Clinic.
7. The Referee-in-Chief should be “up to date” with reports sent out by the CAWF Ethics Committee specifically as it applies to serious offences, suspensions and restrictions within the Province of Manitoba.
8. The Referee-in-Chief is expected to have current knowledge of the CAWF/MAWA Code of Ethics, and confidentiality policy, in order to uphold its intent.
9. The Referee-in-Chief shall be elected for a term of (2) two years.
10. Any vacancy of the Referee-in-Chief shall be filled by appointment for the balance of the term by the MAWA Executive.
11. The Referee-in-Chief shall be vacated if: a) the person ceases to be a member of MAWA or b) by notice in writing to the MAWA Executive, person resigns from position.
12. The Referee-in-Chief shall serve without any remuneration while conducting his/her duties set out above, except when organizing the annual Manitoba Referee Clinic or refereeing a MAWA sanctioned tournament.

ARTICLE VII: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Section 1

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held the day before the Provincial Championships.

Section 2

Notice of the AGM shall be posted online and emailed to the membership at the same time as the announcement of the Provincial Championships.

Section 3

At every AGM the following items will always be on the agenda:

1. Election of Executive Committee, if required.
2. Election of Referee-in-Chief, if required.
3. a written report of the President.
4. a written report of the Vice-President.
5. presentation of annual financial statements.
6. ratification of MAWA Constitution, if required.

Commented [SV-CoCS-C10]: Updated and clarified what AGM agenda items will be discussed

7. modification of guidelines, policies and by-laws of MAWA, if required; and/or
8. new business presented by the membership.

Section 4

Before the start of the AGM, requests of the **credentials** of all the delegates and memberships are to be logged in writing.

Commented [SV-CoCS-C11]: New section requesting credentials of delegates / members

Section 5

The election of officers who are chosen by election shall take place at the AGM.

Section 6

Voting shall be a show of hands on “for” or “against”, except where a ballot vote is requested by at least (5) five eligible voting members. All votes shall be a majority. Transfer of “votes” by proxy to representatives of another member is unacceptable. Eligible voters comprise current members of the MAWA board, past MAWA executives, MAWA referees (including spotters, level 1, 2, 3, and Masters referees), recipients of the Danny Altenburg award, individuals involved in organizing MAWA tournaments within the last 12 months (handling draw sheets, registration, and acting as an EMCEE), and those who have competed in a sanctioned MAWA tournament within the last 12 months. Individuals aged 16 and above are eligible to vote, reflecting the increasing participation of youth in MAWA events.

ARTICLE VIII: SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special Meetings of the MAWA Executive Committee to deal with matters that would normally be done at the AGM shall be known as Special Meetings. A **notice of the Special Meeting** can be called by the MAWA President and shall be posted online and emailed to the membership at least 14-days in advance, together with a set agenda and any related documents. No other business can be added to the Special Meeting.

Commented [SV-CoCS-C12]: Updated language about process of notifying members about a special meeting being held

ARTICLE IX: CUSTODY AND USE OF MAWA LOGO

THE LOGO: Section 1

The MAWA shall adopt the same logo as the CAWF except replacing the words “Canadian Armwrestling Federation” with “Manitoba Armwrestling Association.” The use of this logo or any reproduction can only be done by the written request to the MAWA and by return permission from the MAWA. The logo is to appear on all MAWA literature and letterheads.

THE SYMBOL: Section 2

The MAWA symbol is the head of **the Manitoba Bison** with one flexing arm, together with the words “Manitoba Arm Wrestling”.

Commented [SV-CoCS-C13]: New section showing a picture of the MAWA bison logo



ARTICLE X: SIGNING AUTHORITY

Any (2) two of the following may be authorized to draw and sign cheques, bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments: President, Vice-President, and/or Director.

ARTICLE XI: AUDITS

The accounts of the MAWA may be audited by an auditor appointed at the Annual General Meeting of the MAWA.