

I. BOUNDARY RULES

a. APPLICABILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION:

- i. All member associations and participants / prospective participants of the SEMPWFL are subject to the requirements and provisions of the Boundary Rules.
- ii. Adherence to this policy will be monitored and enforced by the SEMPWFL through periodic auditing and quality control checks / procedures.
- iii. Associations are only permitted to register and certify participants that reside within its established boundary or the Free Zones as outlined.
 1. The participant's report card, used for certification in the season in which the participant is certified, will be used to determine the boundary in which the participant resides and his or her assigned association.
 2. SEMPWFL officials will monitor the certification process to preclude participants from certifying in violation of the Boundary Rules.
 3. Final accountability rests with the association that registers / certifies any participant in all cases, with respect to the Boundary Rules, to demonstrate that it acted in good faith.
- iv. Associations found to have willfully or knowingly violated the provisions of the Boundary Rules shall be subject to sanctions including but not limited to forfeiture of games, denial of post-season participation, fines, and suspensions.

b. RELEASE / WAIVERS:

- i. (The term Release and Waiver are interchangeable with regard to the Boundary Rules)
- ii. Waivers to the Boundary Rules will only be granted under one, or more, of the conditions noted herein.
- iii. Once a waiver is granted it will remain in effect and is automatically renewed unless it is voided by an act of the participant, parent, association, or a rules change by the SEMPWFL or PWLS.
 1. **GRANDFATHER CLAUSE:** Participants will be permitted to certify and compete with the last association that he / she competed with as a regular certified participant in the season preceding the implementation or changes to the SEMPWFL Boundary Rules.
 2. **STAFF RELEASE:** A participant will be permitted to certify and compete with the association of which his/her parent or legal guardian is a certified coach, or member of the association's Board of Directors. The participant's tracking form or folder should CLEARLY denote the name and position of the participant's parent / guardian from whom the waiver extends. This information will be verified against the official rosters and/or association registration.

3. **LEGACY:** A participant will be permitted to certify and compete with the association with which his/her parent or sibling last competed with as an active and certified SEMPWFL youth athlete.
4. **ORDINARY RELEASE:** The legal parent or guardian, or a Board Member of any association may petition for a release in writing on the SEMPWFL release request form. The request for release must be submitted by the first day of the second week of official practice of the current season in order to receive consideration.
 - a. The local association must respond to the request within two (2) business days. The local association may choose to approve or deny the request.
 - b. In the event a request is denied the following alternatives are available:
 - i. Appeal the decision to the SEMPWFL
 - ii. Have the participant “sit-out” for the season.
 - iii. Accept the decision and allow the participant to compete with the local association.
 1. Appeals must be submitted within two (2) business days of the date of denial. The SEMPWFL President or his/her designee will review the appeal and render a decision within five (5) business days.
 2. If the parent/guardian chooses to have the participant “sit-out” the participant will gain an automatic release the following season, provide that he/she is otherwise eligible for participation.
5. **ADMINISTRATIVE RELEASE:** A release may be administratively extended under any of the following conditions:
 - a. An association may grant an administrative release to any participant, irrespective of whether or not a release was requested, for business necessity.
 - b. The SEMPWFL President may issues an administrative release under any of the following conditions:
 - i. An association is on probation or suspension
 - ii. An association is pending sanctions or adverse action that may affect its ability to maintain or retain active membership in the SEMPWFL
 - iii. Failure to field the required number of teams
 - iv. Failure to field a team in the division of play desired by the participant / parent, provided the participant is otherwise qualified

c. RELOCATION:

- i. The association's practice field will be used primarily to determine its "base of operations" as the basis for assigning boundaries.
- ii. No association may relocate its practice field without providing prior written notification to the SEMPWFL.
- iii. Associations may not relocate to an area within the boundary of another association without that Association's and the SEMPWFL President's express written consent.

d. LIMITATIONS:

- i. No provision of these rules may be construed to mean that:
 1. a participant that is under suspension or expulsion from the SEMPWFL may be granted a release for participation
 2. a parent or participant may be granted a release where it is substantiated that the parent and/or participant failed to return, or satisfy debts for, equipment, uniforms, materials, supplies, or any other property to a member association
- ii. A participant may only use a release to affiliate with one other local member association in the year in which the release is granted. The release shall not be construed so as to make the participant a "free agent" in every succeeding year¹
- iii. A release or wavier will be voided under one or more of the following conditions:
 1. It is determined that the release was gained through fraud or misrepresentation
 2. The participant incurs a break in service, without a compelling reason, that is longer than one season in duration
- iv. Once a release is voided, or otherwise rendered invalid, the participant shall become subject to the normal Boundary Rules in the same as all other participants
- v. Associations are limited in all cases to a 25% association wide cap on the number of participants that can come from outside its boundaries under the provisions of b,iii,5 above, (Administrative Release). The 25% cap may be waived in any year by majority vote of the member associations of the SEMPWFL.

e. QUALITY AUDITS:

- i. Associations are required to monitor its registration activity to ensure compliance with the Boundary Rules.
- ii. The SEMPWFL President or his/her designee will conduct Quality Audits to identify compliance issues.
- iii. Associations found to have violated the Boundary Rules will be subject to sanctions.

- f. **BOUNDARIES:** <http://maps.huge.info/zip.htm>
- i. Detroit Hurricanes: All of the area within the boundary of zip codes 48205, 48224, 48215
 - ii. Detroit Knights: All of the area within the boundary of zip codes 48205, 48234, 48213
 - iii. Detroit Titans: All of the area within the boundary of zip codes 48228, 48227
 - iv. Inkster Raiders: All of the area within the boundary of the zip codes 48141, 48174, 48180, 48128, 48127
 - v. Detroit Dolphins: All of the of the area within the boundary of zip code 48219
 - vi. Motor City Chargers: All of the area within the boundary of zip code 48234, 48212, 48203
 - vii. Oak Park Trojans: All of the area within the boundary of zip code 48237
 - viii. Southfield Falcons: All of the area within the boundary of zip code 48075, 48076, 48034, 48025
 - ix. Southfield Ravens: All of the area within the boundary of zip code 48075, 48076, 48034, 48025
 - x. Washtenaw Warriors: All of the area within the boundary south of I-94 excluding the area east of Harris Road and north of Grove
 - xi. Ypsilanti Panthers: All of the area within the boundary north of I-94 including the area east of Harris Road and north of Grove
- g. **FREE ZONES:**
- h. The Free Zones are understood to include any area of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, or Washtenaw County not included in the boundary of a member association as outlined. Any member association may recruit and accept participants from any Free Zone until such time as these zones or their boundaries are altered through action of the SEMPWFL.

1 For example: if a participant is granted a waiver and competes with association “C” for the upcoming / current season that waiver is only good and is in effect as long as the participant competes with association “C”. The participant may not, the next year or any season thereafter be permitted to use the waiver to compete with association “F”. The participant would require a new waiver in such case.