***SOCCER BY-LAWS***

1. Schedule will rotate from the bottom up every other year.
2. League Standings: League standings will be determined by awarding 3 points for a win, 1 point, for tie, and 0 points for a loss.
	1. If a tie exists for first place, a co-championship would be declared. Points for the All-Sports Trophy will be awarded as outlined in Appendix.
3. Varsity or JV playing first will be determined by the home team’s facilities. JV games will consist of 35 minute halves with clock stoppages per playing rules.
4. Jerseys: MHSAA Rule (1987) Home team wears light colored jerseys and visiting team wears dark.
5. Two officials will be contracted. If only one registered official shows, the match will be played with one official. No linesman can be used unless they are registered.
6. Mercy Rule: The MHSAA Mercy Rule will be followed.
7. All League Selection: Coaches will meet the first available date after the last League game. The athletic director in charge of soccer will determine the time and location of the meeting.

10. Selection process:

1. Coaches will select 12 players and a goal-keeper for First Team and 12 players and a goalie for Second Team. Only the goal-keeper will be identified by position.

B. Each coach will nominate one player, the teams best, and discuss their candidate. The group will then decide from the list who the best player is.

 C. As a player is voted on to the All League List the coach may replace that candidate on the board with a new candidate. Again, the coach will be allowed to discuss the player added.

D. The process will continue until the 12 positions of First Team and 12 positions of Second Team have been filled. The goalie position will be done separately.

E. Honorable Mention: Any players nominated that do not get placed on the First Team or Second Team will be Honorable Mention. In addition, coaches are allowed to add one more player to “Honorable Mention” for a total of two honorable mention players per school.

**PERTINENT GENERAL BYLAWS FOR ALL F.M.L. SPORTS**

9. Each school may regulate its own pre-game ticket sales to its own students for home games.

10. Team rosters and uniform numbers are to be sent to League member schools in football, basketball, hockey, volleyball, and soccer.

12. In case of a school being closed due to inclement weather, all non-varsity events may be postponed or canceled. The playing of all varsity or combined varsity and JV matches will be determined by the athletic director and administration of the schools involved.

15. Noise making devices, including the human voice, will not be allowed to be used in an unsportsmanlike manner. The home team management will have the right to remove any such object, or person, from the sporting activity.

16. The Flint Metro League takes the position that the practice of good sportsmanship is essential and that all members should adopt a common policy. Member schools are expected to implement a plan to promote responsible behavior by fans and all persons associated with athletics. It is suggested that schools use contest programs, the media, bulletins, and meetings as a means for promoting good sportsmanship. Member schools should also have plans for the monitoring of home and away contests and for dealing with those persons who violate the principles of responsible behavior.

17. During league competitions and tournaments, the host school administration, the sport administrator, and/or designee of either, is charged with the authority to act on any situation that might arise that is not covered herein.

18. Home school will contact league-approved media to report contest results.

20. Grievance and Protest Procedure:

A. All protests must use the following procedure:

 1. The principal/designee of the protesting school will notify the League president and its opponent(s) by phone the following school day of the intent to protest.

2. All violations and protests will be directed to the League president in writing. This protest must be done in writing by a school administrator within 72 hours of the event.

3. The League president will appoint a three member committee of non-involved schools to determine whether the protest is valid and make a recommendation for a course of action to be voted on by the conference membership not involved in the protest.

B. Courses of action possible when a violation is determined and a protest is upheld include:

1. Letter of censure (duplicate will be sent to each member school and any game official who may have been involved)

2. Forfeiture of League contest(s)

3. Probation for one year in the sport involved

4. Ineligibility for championships (such ineligibility to be in the sport involved only, for one year only, and the year involved to be determined by the membership); no all-sports points awarded that year

5. Other courses of action as deemed appropriate to the violation

C. All contests in which an ineligible player or players are used shall be forfeited and the score be that of a forfeited contest. This includes League championship tournaments.

1. If use of an ineligible player or players by a League champion is determined, and forfeitures under section C above prevent a team from maintaining its championship, the championship for that sport for that year will be awarded to the second-place team and All Sports Award points adjusted accordingly. In the event of co-championships, the remaining championship team would maintain its championship.

22. The only League awards to be made in any sport are the ones sanctioned by the League.

23. The FML will NOT recognize an MVP athlete for each sport.

24. Each varsity sport will be allowed a Coach of the Year selection. That coach will be presented a certificate.

25. If a coach or designated representative is not present at an All-League voting meeting, athletes from that school are not eligible for All-League recognition beyond honorable mention.

26. To receive FML honors, an athlete has to finish the season in good standing. The definition of “good standing” is to finish the season on the team and meet minimum requirements for that sport’s awards.