



National Federation of Middle School Sports

501(c)(3) Nonprofit • In Time of Need, Inc. • USPTO Registered Trademark

www.nfmss.org • info@nfmss.org • (404) 477-8781

Important notice: This template is provided for organizational planning and should be reviewed by a qualified attorney before public use. This Agreement may need to be adjusted for state law, school district requirements, insurance requirements, event rules, and any specific membership package offered by NFMSS.

School Membership Agreement

This School Membership Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and between the National Federation of Middle School Sports ("NFMSS"), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization operating under In Time of Need, Inc., and the school or educational institution identified below ("Member School"). This Agreement establishes the terms for school membership, participation, communication, eligibility, data submission, event participation, and related responsibilities between NFMSS and the Member School.

2 Member School Information

School Name	_____
School District / Organization	_____
School Type	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Charter <input type="checkbox"/> Independent <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
School Address	_____
City / State / ZIP	_____
Main School Phone	_____
School Website	_____
Principal Name	_____
Principal Email	_____
Athletic Director Name	_____
Athletic Director Email	_____
Primary Membership Contact	_____
Primary Contact Phone	_____

Primary Contact Email _____

3 Membership Term

Unless otherwise stated in a written invoice, membership confirmation, or approved membership package, the NFMSS school membership term begins on the date membership is approved and paid and continues through the membership period stated below. NFMSS may offer annual, calendar-year, school-year, sport-specific, or all-sports membership packages. The exact package selected by the Member School should be documented in Exhibit A.

MEMBERSHIP START DATE

MEMBERSHIP END DATE

MEMBERSHIP YEAR / SEASON

4 Membership Package and Covered Sports

- Single Sport Membership
- Multiple Sport Membership
- All-Sports School Membership
- State Championship Participation Membership
- Other: _____

COVERED SPORTS

NUMBER OF TEAMS INCLUDED

GRADE LEVELS SERVED

5 NFMSS Membership Benefits

- NFMSS school membership recognition and participation eligibility.
- State championship and national championship pathway opportunities.
- School, team, coach, and athletic director communication resources.
- Rules, eligibility guidance, event updates, and membership support.
- Opportunities for student-athlete, team, and school recognition.
- Sponsor-supported initiatives, community impact opportunities, and NFMSS campaigns when available.

Membership does not guarantee championship qualification, rankings, awards, media coverage, scholarship opportunities, college recruiting attention, sponsorship benefits, or any specific outcome.

6 Membership Fees and Payment Terms

The Member School agrees to pay all applicable membership fees, sport registration fees, event fees, late fees, invoice balances, and related costs according to the selected membership package, official invoice, or written payment agreement. NFMSS may suspend, delay, deny, or cancel membership privileges, event participation, rankings features, or school access if required payments are not received by the stated deadline.

MEMBERSHIP FEE / PACKAGE AMOUNT

PAYMENT DUE DATE

PAYMENT METHOD

7 Refund / Credit Policy

Unless otherwise stated in a separate written policy or agreement, NFMSS does not issue refunds for membership fees, registration fees, or event-related payments. When available and approved by NFMSS, payments may be credited toward another sport, event date, or membership opportunity if cancellation is submitted in writing at least thirty (30) days before the scheduled event or deadline. Credits are subject to NFMSS approval, event availability, sport availability, venue availability, and applicable administrative requirements. No credit is guaranteed unless confirmed in writing by NFMSS.

8 School Authorization and Responsibilities

The Member School represents that the person signing this Agreement has authority to enroll the school in NFMSS membership or has obtained approval from the principal, head of school, athletic director, district, governing body, or other authorized school leadership as required by school policy. The Member School agrees to provide accurate information; update NFMSS when contacts or details change; follow NFMSS rules, event policies, eligibility standards, safety policies, and conduct requirements; ensure coaches and adult representatives comply with youth safety expectations; obtain all required parent/guardian consents, medical forms, waivers, and media releases before submitting student information; maintain appropriate supervision of student-athletes at all NFMSS events; and cooperate with NFMSS regarding rosters, eligibility documentation, event requirements, and safety procedures.

9 Athlete Eligibility and Rosters

NFMSS is designed for middle school athletics, generally serving grades 6–8 unless a specific sport, event, school classification, or state policy provides otherwise. The Member School is responsible for submitting accurate rosters and verifying that all participating athletes meet applicable grade, age, school enrollment, participation, and eligibility requirements. NFMSS may request roster verification, grade verification, age verification, enrollment verification, coach certification, or other eligibility documents before participation in championships, events, rankings, or recognition programs. Inaccurate or false eligibility information may result in disqualification, forfeiture, suspension, removal, or other action.

10 Parent / Guardian Consent and Student Forms

Before any student-athlete participates in NFMSS events or has information displayed on NFMSS platforms, the Member School must ensure that all required parent/guardian permissions, student forms, medical documents, waiver/release documents, media releases, and privacy consents are completed and retained according to NFMSS and school requirements. NFMSS may require copies of forms or confirmation that forms have been obtained. The Member School agrees not to submit student information, photos, videos, statistics, highlights, rankings data, or profile information unless it has proper authorization to do so.

11 Youth Safety, Background Checks, and Adult Conduct

The Member School agrees that all adult representatives involved with NFMSS activities must comply with applicable youth safety expectations, codes of conduct, supervision standards, and reporting responsibilities. NFMSS may require adult representatives, coaches, volunteers, contractors, and event staff to complete background checks, youth protection training, code of conduct acknowledgments, or other safety requirements. Adults may not engage in bullying, harassment, hazing, discrimination, abuse, neglect, inappropriate one-on-one contact with minors, unauthorized private communication with minors, retaliation, or any conduct that compromises student safety or the reputation of NFMSS, the Member School, or In Time of Need, Inc.

12 Media and Data Sharing

If the Member School submits or authorizes submission of athlete, team, school, coach, statistics, photos, video, or media content, the Member School represents that it has obtained all required approvals and consents. NFMSS may review, edit, publish, remove, decline, correct, archive, or update submitted content for organizational, safety, accuracy, privacy, media, event, ranking, or recognition purposes. NFMSS does not guarantee rankings, media coverage, profile placement, awards, or public recognition.

13 Championships, Events, and Participation

NFMSS may offer state championships, national championship pathways, tournaments, jamborees, showcases, combines, camps, clinics, media days, awards, and other events. Participation is subject to registration, eligibility, payment, venue availability, scheduling, rules, safety requirements, and NFMSS approval. NFMSS reserves the right to adjust schedules, brackets, locations, rules, classifications, event formats, deadlines, and participation requirements when necessary for safety, fairness, operations, weather, venue availability, or organizational needs.

14 Insurance, Medical, and Risk Management

The Member School is responsible for ensuring that its students, teams, coaches, staff, and representatives have appropriate insurance coverage, medical documentation, emergency contact information, and school approvals before participating in NFMSS events. NFMSS may require proof of insurance or certificates of insurance when appropriate. Athletic participation includes inherent risks. The Member School agrees to cooperate with NFMSS regarding emergency action planning, injury reporting, concussion protocols, return-to-play procedures, weather delays, facility rules, and other risk-management requirements.

15 Codes of Conduct and Sportsmanship

The Member School agrees to promote sportsmanship, respect, safety, and positive student development. The Member School is responsible for communicating NFMSS codes of conduct to coaches, athletes, parents, guardians, spectators, and school representatives. NFMSS may remove, suspend, disqualify, or restrict any school, team, athlete, coach, staff member, parent, spectator, or representative for misconduct, safety concerns, harassment, bullying, threats, fighting, unsportsmanlike behavior, rule violations, or conduct harmful to the organization or participants.

16 Sponsorships, Vendors, and Third-Party Promotions

The Member School may not use the NFMSS name, logo, trademark, seal, branding, event names, or championship marks for sponsorships, vendors, merchandise, fundraising, advertising, or promotions without prior written permission from NFMSS. NFMSS reserves the right to approve sponsor categories, signage, vendor booths, media promotions, and brand use connected to NFMSS events or platforms.

17 Intellectual Property and Trademark Use

NFMSS is a registered trademark with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). The Member School may not copy, alter, use, license, sell, distribute, or display NFMSS names, logos, marks, graphics, documents, forms, templates, championship names, or other intellectual property except as authorized in writing by NFMSS. Approved use of NFMSS branding must follow NFMSS brand guidelines and must not imply endorsement, ownership, partnership, or authority beyond what is granted in writing.

18 Confidentiality and Internal Information

The Member School may receive non-public information, including event plans, membership records, internal communications, sponsor information, student information, rankings data, operational procedures, or other confidential information. The Member School agrees to use such information only for authorized NFMSS-related purposes and to protect student privacy and organizational confidentiality.

19 Suspension, Termination, or Non-Renewal

NFMSS may suspend, terminate, restrict, or decline renewal of membership if the Member School or its representatives violate this Agreement, fail to pay required fees, submit inaccurate information, fail to follow safety or conduct policies, misuse NFMSS intellectual property, create youth safety concerns, or engage in conduct harmful to NFMSS, In Time of Need, Inc., sponsors, partners, schools, athletes, or families. The Member School may request withdrawal from membership by submitting written notice to NFMSS. Withdrawal does not automatically entitle the Member School to a refund, and unpaid balances may remain due unless waived in writing by NFMSS.

20 Limitation of Liability and Indemnification

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Member School agrees to release, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless NFMSS, In Time of Need, Inc., and their directors, officers, staff, contractors, volunteers, sponsors, partners, agents, and representatives from claims, losses, damages, liabilities, costs, or expenses arising from the Member School's participation, submitted information, failure to obtain required permissions, misconduct by its representatives, violation of this Agreement, or violation of applicable law or policy. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to limit liability where such limitation is prohibited by applicable law.

21 No Agency, Employment, or Legal Partnership

This Agreement does not create an employment relationship, legal partnership, joint venture, franchise, or agency relationship between NFMSS and the Member School. The Member School does not have authority to bind NFMSS to contracts, sponsorships, obligations, debts, public statements, or commitments unless expressly authorized in writing by NFMSS.

22 Governing Law and Dispute Resolution

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Georgia, unless another jurisdiction is required by applicable law or a separate written agreement. The parties agree to make reasonable good-faith efforts to resolve concerns, disputes, or membership issues through written communication before pursuing formal legal action, unless immediate action is necessary for safety, youth protection, payment, or legal compliance.

23 Notices

Official notices to NFMSS should be sent to: National Federation of Middle School Sports • www.nfmss.org • info@nfmss.org Official notices to the Member School should be sent to the principal, athletic director, or primary membership contact listed in this Agreement unless the Member School provides updated written contact information.

24 Entire Agreement and Amendments

This Agreement, including any attached exhibits, invoices, membership packages, event rules, forms, or written addenda, represents the understanding between NFMSS and the Member School regarding school membership. Any amendment must be in writing and approved by authorized representatives of both parties, except that NFMSS may update general policies, event rules, safety requirements, schedules, forms, and operating procedures as needed.

25 Authorized Signatures

By signing below, each party confirms that it has read, understands, and agrees to the terms of this NFMSS School Membership Agreement.

For Member School	For NFMSS / In Time of Need, Inc.
Authorized Representative Printed Name: _____	Authorized NFMSS Representative Printed Name: _____
Title: _____	Title: _____
School Name: _____	Email: info@nfmss.org
Date: _____	Date: _____
Signature: _____	Signature: _____

Exhibit A — Membership Package and Fee Schedule

Membership Package	_____
Sport(s) Covered	_____
Number of Teams	_____
Membership Term	_____
Membership Fee	\$ _____
Event Fees Included	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Details: _____

Event Fees Not Included	_____
Payment Due Date	_____
Special Terms	_____

Exhibit B — Required School Forms and Documents

- School Membership Application
- Principal Authorization Form
- Athletic Director Contact Form
- Team Registration Form and Official Roster
- Coach Contact Form
- Parent / Guardian Consent Form
- Waiver and Release of Liability Form
- Minor Media Release Form
- Athlete Profile Consent Form, if athlete profiles are used
- Concussion Acknowledgment Form
- Return-to-Play Clearance Form, when applicable
- Proof of insurance or certificate of insurance, when requested
- Any additional forms required by NFMSS, the venue, the school, or applicable law

Exhibit C — Member School Acknowledgment Checklist

- School leadership has approved NFMSS membership.
- The school understands membership fees and payment deadlines.
- The school understands that NFMSS does not guarantee championship qualification, rankings, media coverage, or awards.
- The school agrees to follow NFMSS rules, eligibility standards, safety policies, and codes of conduct.
- The school will obtain required parent/guardian consent before submitting student-athlete information or media.
- The school will communicate conduct expectations to coaches, athletes, parents, and spectators.
- The school understands that NFMSS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization operating under In Time of Need, Inc.
- The school understands that NFMSS is a registered trademark with the USPTO.

Attorney Review Recommended: This document should be reviewed by counsel before use with schools, districts, sponsors, events, or platforms.

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