



<b>Authority:</b> Board	<b>Effective Date:</b> January 10, 2023	<b>Number:</b> P214.0
<b>Responsibility:</b> 1 VP, 2VP, Community Chair, Selects Director, Executive Director		<b>Last reviewed/revised:</b> January 10, 2023
<b>Title:</b> Sponsorship Hardship Program		

# Sponsorship Program

## Policy Statement

EMSA South operates with the philosophy that every child that resides in the EMSA South zone will have the opportunity to play soccer in our community program. This philosophy has necessitated the creation of a “Hardship” program for those parents that cannot afford the player registration fee.

## Principles and Practices

Members of the MWSA Executive Board and its volunteers shall treat all Hardship applicants with respect and dignity. People enrolled into the Hardship Program are to be treated in the same appropriate manner as other members in our program.

Persons who wish to apply for the Hardship program must contact the Executive Director of EMSA South or his/her designate and make their request for inclusion in the Hardship program. Applicants must *justify* their application to the satisfaction of the Executive Director or his/her designate. The Executive Director in consultation with the MWSA Executive will decide as to whether the applicant will be accepted into the Hardship Program.

Applicants who successfully enter the Hardship Program are required to donate a specific number of volunteer hours in lieu of their registration fee. The volunteer tasks could include:

- Volunteering at the Equipment warehouse.
- Volunteering to work at a concession at a Soccer Tournament.
- Assisting in the EMSA South office.
- Volunteering as a Field Marshall or organizer at a Soccer Tournament.
- Any other task related to the operation of EMSA South

As the individual circumstances for each Hardship Program applicant vary, the Executive Director in consultation with the MWSA Executive will decide the number of hours the Hardship program applicant must contribute. Factors which make this determination include:

- Number of children playing soccer in the family.
- Situation of applicant.
- Type of volunteer work assigned.

Applicants for the Hardship program may be refused for the following reasons:

- Hardship not justified.
- Previous bad history (failing to fulfill obligations from previous seasons on the Hardship program).
- Not a member in good standing with EMSA or EMSA South.

**\*\*\* There is no right of appeal of a refusal into the Hardship Program. \*\*\***

**\*\*\* Note \*\*\*** Applicants accepted into the Hardship program must still pay for any fund-raising initiative as only the player registration fee is included in the Hardship program. If the applicant cannot afford fundraising initiatives or equipment, the applicant should be referred to their own Community for financial assistance.