

## **SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT**

This Sponsorship Agreement (the “Agreement”) is entered into as of January 1, 2026 (the “Effective Date”) by and between City of Marshall, Minnesota, a municipality of the State of Minnesota (the “City”), and the State of Minnesota, by and through the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, on behalf of Southwest Minnesota State University (the “Sponsor” or “Minnesota State”), and together with the City, the “Parties”).

### **RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, the City is engaged in the management and the operation of the arena and expo center, known as the Red Baron™ Arena & Expo, and four softball/youth baseball fields, known as the Amateur Sports Complex, hereafter referred to as the “Property,” located in Marshall, MN; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sponsor wishes to advertise at the Property and agrees to pay a fee in exchange for sponsorship rights pursuant the terms and conditions of this Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to grant the Sponsor certain rights in connection with the Sponsorship on the terms and conditions set forth below; and

**WHEREAS**, each Party is duly authorized and capable of entering into this Agreement.

**NOW THEREFORE**, in consideration of the above recitals and the mutual promises and benefits contained herein, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

#### **1. GRANT OF RIGHTS.**

As consideration for the Sponsorship Rights, as such term is defined in Exhibit A, the City hereby grants the Sponsor the rights described in this Agreement and in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof, in connection with the Property and agrees to perform all of the City’s obligations hereunder.

#### **2. SPONSORSHIP FEE.**

The total Sponsorship Fee, as such term is defined in Exhibit A, for the Sponsorship Rights and the schedule of payments of the Sponsorship Fee shall be as set forth in Exhibit A hereto.

#### **3. TERM.**

This Agreement is effective as of the Effective Date and shall continue in force, unless otherwise terminated in accordance with the provisions of Section 4(B) of this Agreement, until December 31, 2028, (the “Term”). On or before July 1<sup>st</sup> of the expiration year, City and Sponsor shall meet at a mutually agreeable time to discuss the Term of the contract.

#### **4. SPONSORSHIP RENEWAL AND TERMINATION.**

##### **(A) SPONSORSHIP RENEWAL.**

The Sponsor shall have the right of first negotiation related to Sponsor's existing sponsorship package and may negotiate a three (3) year renewal of the Sponsorship Rights at completion of the Term. The City shall negotiate the terms and conditions for sponsorship rights for subsequent terms exclusively with the Sponsor for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the expiration of the Term. If, after the expiration of this time period, no agreement has been reached, then City may negotiate with other third parties for the Sponsorship Rights.

##### **(B) TERMINATION.**

This Agreement may be terminated:

- (i.) By either Party for a material breach of any provision of this Agreement by the other Party, if the other Party's material breach is not cured within ninety (90) days of receipt of written notice thereof.
- (ii.) By either Party, for failure to comply with Section 6 of this Agreement by the other Party, if the other Party's failure to comply is not cured within ninety (90) days of receipt of written notice thereof.
- (iii.) By either Party at any time and on provision of written notice, if any of the other Party's representations and warranties under this Agreement prove to be inaccurate in any material respects.
- (iv.) By either Party at any time and on provision of written notice, if the other Party is convicted of any crime or offense or is guilty of serious misconduct in connection with performance under this Agreement.
- (v.) By Either Party at any time without cause, if either party deems continuation of this agreement is not in said party's best business interest. Termination without cause requires sixty (60) days written notice to non-terminating party before termination becomes effective.
- (vi.) By Minnesota State if it does not obtain funding from the Minnesota Legislature or other funding source, or if funding cannot be continued at a level sufficient to allow for the payment of the services covered here. Termination must be by written or fax notice to the City within a reasonable time of Minnesota State receiving notice that sufficient funding is not available. Minnesota State is not obligated to pay for any services that are provided after notice and effective date of termination. However, the City will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for work or services satisfactorily performed to the extent that funds are available. Minnesota State will not be assessed any penalty if the contract is terminated because of the decision of the Minnesota Legislature or other funding source not to appropriate funds.

## **5. RESPONSIBILITIES.**

- (A) Of the City. The City agrees to do each of the following:
- (i) Provide the Sponsor with the Sponsorship Rights detailed in this Agreement and Exhibit A to this Agreement.
  - (ii) Organize, produce, and supervise events in a workmanlike manner, in accordance with applicable laws, and with professional diligence and skill, using fully trained, skilled, competent, and experienced personnel.
  - (iii) Make all arrangements for the use of the venue, including securing any necessary permits, coordinating parking and/or transportation, supplying equipment, and contracting with vendors and other service providers.
  - (iv) Deliver the Property Trademarks (as defined in Section 7(B) below) to the Sponsor within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date, and then within thirty (30) days of any subsequent revision of the Property Trademarks.
  - (v) Provide adequate professional security for the Events and take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of all workers, volunteers, and persons attending the Events.
  - (vi) Use best efforts to obtain appropriate media coverage of the Property.
  - (vii) Use best efforts to promote the Property and maximize attendance.
- (B) Of the Sponsor. The Sponsor agrees to do each of the following:
- (i) Provide all assistance and cooperation to the City that is necessary in connection with the Sponsor's Sponsorship Rights of the Property.
  - (ii) Deliver the Sponsor Trademarks (as defined in Section 7(A) below) to the City within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date.

## **6. PARTIES' REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.**

- (A) The Parties each represent and warrant as follows:
- (i) Each Party has full power, authority, and right to perform its obligations under the Agreement.
  - (ii) This Agreement is a legal, valid, and binding obligation of each Party, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms (except as may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, moratorium, or similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally and equitable remedies).
  - (iii) Entering into this Agreement will not violate the charter or bylaws of either Party or any material contract to which that Party is also a party.
- (B) The City hereby represents and warrants as follows:
- (i) The Property shall be operated in accordance with any applicable laws, rules, or regulations, and the City shall obtain all permissions required to comply with such laws, rules, or regulations.

- (ii) The City shall notify the Sponsor of any changes that would materially change the deliverable elements at least ninety (90) days before implementing such changes.
  - (iii) The obligations required by this Agreement shall be performed by the City the City's staff or such operational or management resources the City may engage, and the Sponsor will not be required to hire, supervise, or pay any individual or entity to help or to enable the City to perform such obligations. Sponsor will have no obligations as an operator, employer, manager or other decision-maker with respect to the Property, and neither the City nor its employees nor any contractors will be entitled to receive any benefits which employees of Sponsor are entitled to receive.
- (C) The Sponsor hereby represents and warrants as follows:
- (i) The Sponsor will make timely payments of the Sponsorship Fee to the City under this Agreement and as detailed in Exhibit A hereto.
  - (ii) The Sponsor shall provide such other assistance to the City as the Sponsor deems reasonable and appropriate.

## 7. TRADEMARKS.

### (A) Sponsor Trademarks.

- (i) License. The Sponsor hereby grants the City a non-exclusive limited license to use, display, and reproduce its logos, trademarks, service marks, and trade names (each, a "Sponsor Trademark" and collectively, the "Sponsor Trademarks") in connection with the promotion and advertisement of the Property and any listing of the sponsors of the Property during the Term and any Renewal Term. The City agrees to notify the Sponsor before each use, display, and reproduction of the Sponsor Trademarks.
- (ii) Ownership. All Sponsor Trademarks provided, leased, or licensed to the City in connection with the Property are the Sponsor's sole property, and the City has no ownership or other intellectual property rights in or to such items, except for the limited license granted in Section 7 (A) (i).
- (iii) No Infringement. The Sponsor represents and warrants to the City and unconditionally guarantees that all of the Sponsor Trademarks are owned by the Sponsor or that the Sponsor has permission from the rightful owner to use each of these elements.

### (B) Property Trademarks.

- (i) License. The City hereby grants the Sponsor a non-exclusive limited license to use, display, and reproduce the logos, trademarks, service marks, and trade names, associated with the Property (each a "Property Trademark" and collectively, the "Property Trademarks") only in connection with the promotion and advertisement of the Sponsor's products and services during the Term and any Renewal Term. The

Sponsor agrees to obtain the consent of the City before each use, display, and reproduction of the Property Trademarks.

- (ii) Ownership. All Property Trademarks provided, leased, or licensed to the Sponsor in connection with Events are the City's sole property, and the Sponsor has no ownership or other intellectual property rights in or to such items, except for the limited license granted in Section 7 (B) (i).
- (iii) No Infringement. The City represents and warrants to the Sponsor and unconditionally guarantees that all of the Property Trademarks are owned by the City or that the City has permission from the rightful owner to use each of these elements as provided by this Agreement.

## **8. EVENT MERCHANDISE.**

Sponsor-Created Merchandise. During the Term and any Renewal Term and subject to the approval of the City, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, the Sponsor shall have the right to create, manufacture or cause to be manufactured, and sell or give away merchandise associated with the Property and containing the Sponsor's Trademarks in connection with the promotion of the Sponsor's products and services. All merchandise caused to be manufactured for sale or to be given away by the Sponsor in association with the Property shall be of high quality, free from product defects, merchantable, and suitable for its intended purpose.

## **9. LIABILITY.**

Each party shall be responsible for its own acts and omissions and the results thereof to the extent authorized by law and shall not be responsible for the other party's acts and omissions and the results thereof. The State's and Minnesota State's liability under this Agreement is governed by the Minnesota Tort Claims Act, Minnesota Statutes §3.736 and other applicable laws. City's liability is subject to the limits of Minn. Stat. Chapter 466 and other applicable law.

## **10. INSURANCE.**

Each Party shall maintain, at its own expense, insurance coverage required in the reasonable amounts and types for each party's operations.

## **11. FORCE MAJUERE.**

Either party shall not be liable for any failure of or delay in the performance of this Agreement for the period that such failure or delay is due to causes beyond its reasonable control, including but not limited to acts of God, war, terrorism, strikes or labor disputes, embargoes, government orders or any other force majeure event.

## **12. NATURE OF RELATIONSHIP; NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES.**

The Parties agree that nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as creating a joint venture, partnership, franchise, agency, employer/employee, or similar relationship

between the Parties, or as authorizing either Party to act as the agent of the other. Nothing in this Agreement shall create any obligation between either Party and a third party.

**13. AMENDMENTS.**

No amendment, change, or modification of this Agreement shall be valid unless in writing and signed by both Parties.

**14. ASSIGNMENT.**

Neither Party may, without the prior written consent of the other Party, assign, subcontract, or delegate its obligations under this Agreement, except that the Sponsor may assign this Agreement to a purchaser of all or substantially all of the Sponsor's assets, provided that the Sponsor guarantees the performance of and causes the assignee to assume all obligations of the Sponsor under this Agreement. City may assign the operational and management duties of the Property to a third party provider in whole or in part, subject to the terms and conditions of this Sponsorship Agreement.

**15. SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS.**

All references in this Agreement to the Parties shall be deemed to include, as applicable, a reference to their respective successors and assigns. The provisions of this Agreement shall be binding on and shall inure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of the Parties.

**16. NO IMPLIED WAIVER.**

The failure of either Party to insist on strict performance of any covenant or obligation under this Agreement, regardless of the length of time for which such failure continues, shall not be deemed a waiver of such Party's right to demand strict compliance in the future. No consent or waiver, express or implied, to or of any breach or default in the performance of any obligation under this Agreement shall constitute a consent or waiver to or of any other breach or default in the performance of the same or any other obligation.

**17. NOTICE.**

Any notice or other communication provided for herein or given hereunder to a Party hereto shall be in writing and shall be given in person, by overnight courier, or by mail (registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, return-receipt requested) to the respective Parties as follows:

If to the Sponsor:

Southwest Minnesota State University  
Attn: Nathan Polfliet, Associate Vice President of Advancement  
1501 State St.  
Marshall, MN 56258

If to the City:

City of Marshall  
Attn: Sharon Hanson, City Administrator  
344 W. Main St.  
Marshall, MN 56258

**18. GOVERNING LAW.**

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota.

**19. COUNTERPARTS/ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES.**

This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument. For purposes of this Agreement, use of a facsimile, e-mail, or other electronic medium shall have the same force and effect as an original signature.

**20. SEVERABILITY.**

Whenever possible, each provision of this Agreement will be interpreted in such manner as to be effective and valid under applicable law, but if any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect under any applicable law or rule in any jurisdiction, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability will not affect any other provision or any other jurisdiction, but this Agreement will be reformed, construed, and enforced in such jurisdiction as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provisions had never been contained herein.

**21. DATA PRACTICES.**

The parties understand this agreement is subject to the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. To the extent Sponsor deems information confidential or trade secret, Sponsor shall notify City of such designation. Otherwise, all data collected, created, received, maintained, disseminated, or used for any purposes in the course of this Agreement is governed by Chapter 13 of Minnesota Statutes, or any other applicable state statutes and state rules adopted to implement the Act, as well as state statutes and federal regulations on data privacy.

**22. AUDIT.**

Each party's bonds, records, documents, papers, accounting procedures and practices, and other records relevant to this Agreement are subject to the examination, duplication, transcription and audit by the other party, the Legislative Auditor or State Auditor under Minn. Stat. § 16C.05, subd. 5. Following termination of this Agreement, the parties must keep these records for at least six years or longer if any audit -in -progress needs a longer retention time.

**23. ANTI-DISCRIMINATION.**

The provisions of Minnesota Statutes Section 181.59 and of any applicable ordinance relating to civil rights and discrimination shall be considered part of this Agreement as if fully set further herein and shall be part of any Agreement entered into by the parties with any contractor subcontractor, or material suppliers.

**24. ENTIRE AGREEMENT.**

This Agreement, together with the Exhibits hereto, constitutes the final, complete, and exclusive statement of the agreement of the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes any and all other prior and contemporaneous agreements and understandings, both written and oral, between the Parties.

**25. HEADINGS.**

Headings used in this Agreement are provided for convenience only and shall not be used to construe meaning or intent.

**26. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) COMPLIANCE.**

City is responsible for complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. section 12101, et seq., and any regulations promulgated pursuant to the Act.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Parties have executed this Agreement as of the date first above written.

**SPONSOR**

MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND  
UNIVERSITIES  
Southwest Minnesota State University

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Nathan Polfiet  
Title: Associate Vice President of Advancement

**CITY**

CITY OF MARSHALL

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Robert J. Byrnes  
Title: Mayor

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Steven Anderson  
Title: City Clerk

**EXHIBIT A**  
**SPONSORSHIP RIGHTS, FEE, REBATE OF FEE, AND INSURANCE**

**1. SPONSORSHIP RIGHTS.**

In exchange for the Sponsorship Fee, as defined in Section 2 below, the Sponsor will receive the following rights in connection with the Property (collectively, the “Sponsorship Rights”):

(A) Signage and branding. The Sponsor will receive the right to:

- 1) Videoboard Sponsorship. The 13’ 8” x 25’ videoboard located in the main arena will feature video spots at City controlled events. Ten and thirty-second advertisements will be included for sponsor.
- 2) Brand/Company Signage to be placed as follows: The Sponsor logo shall be allowed in two spaces on a “Sports Mural/Quality of Life” to be located in the designated walk-up areas on the first and second level of the main arena. Sponsor is responsible for development and placement of designs, material and installation. The sponsor will also assist in designing a quality-of-life mural to be located on the landing of the main staircase city is responsible for printing material and installation.
- 3) Digital Media. Sponsor logo will be included in all digital/social media controlled by the City (arena website, social media campaigns, etc.)
- 4) In-Ice Logo. Sponsor shall receive one in-ice logo in the main arena. Logo is to be provided by Sponsor. All costs to the development and placement of the in-ice logo has been included in the sponsorship cost (\$800 annually for painting cost). If the Sponsors logo changes, the Sponsor is responsible for new logo implementation and all costs associated with this.
- 5) Fence Sign Logo. The Sponsor’s logo is to be placed on the second championship field fence, at a location to be agreed upon by the Parties.
- 6) Dasher Board. Sponsor shall receive one dasher board sign in the main arena and one dasher board sign in rink 2.

As a sponsor, ads will be weighted to run with all other sponsors under the Sponsorship level. Sponsor is responsible for providing production and traffic instructions for the ads.

(B) Event Rights. The Sponsor will receive the right to:

- 1) Exclusive use of the Red Baron Arena & Expo two times per calendar year for each year of the sponsorship agreement. Operational expenses, food costs, promotional giveaways and any facility remodeling costs associated with the exclusive sponsor use are the responsibility of the Sponsor.
- 2) Exclusive use of the facility club room two times per calendar year. Operational expenses, food costs, promotional giveaways and any facility remodeling costs associated with the exclusive sponsor use are the responsibility of the Sponsor.

(C) Media Rights. The Sponsor will receive the right to:

As Sponsor, Sponsor will receive logo/marks inclusion in all media campaigns associated with events controlled by the City as follows:

**Package Value:**

In-Ice Logo	\$2,000
2 <sup>nd</sup> Championship Field Fence Signage	\$1,500
Wall Designs	\$3,000
Dasher Boards – Signage Sponsorship	\$1,850
Facility Use	\$2,500
Club Room Use	\$ 900
Digital Media	\$1,000
In-house Videoboard Advertising	\$1,500
<b>Total Advertising Package Value (Annual)</b>	<b>\$14,250</b>

**2. SPONSORSHIP FEE.**

In exchange for the Sponsorship Rights as defined herein, the Sponsor agrees to pay the City Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred (\$12,900) (the “Sponsorship Fee”) as follows:

Annual payments as follows:

December 31, 2026	\$4,300
December 31, 2027	\$4,300
December 31, 2028	\$4,300