

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

ST THOMAS ST JOHN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I

The name of the organization shall be the St Thomas-St John Interscholastic Athletic Association, which is a non-profit corporation chartered under the laws of the United States Virgin Islands in hereafter referred to as "the Association".

ARTICLE II

The purposes of this organization are to initiate, promote and maintain interscholastic athletic competition among member schools, as outlined in the rules governing play under the National Federation of State High School Associations, and/or the appropriate for the contests concerned. All members shall be also dedicated to the purposes of promoting clean, fair and well-organized athletic contests helping to promote sportsmanship among teams and participants, and in general maintaining adequate control of players, spectators, and all other persons and groups concerned.

ARTICLE III

1. Membership in the Association shall be on a voluntary basis.
2. Membership shall be open to any primary or secondary school, licensed to operate in the Virgin Islands, or any organization or adult individual member of any of these schools, or any organization or adult individual whose goals and purposes coincide with those above.
3. There shall be three (3) types of membership: full membership; limited membership; and individual membership.
4. Full or limited membership is determined by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors of the Association.

ARTICLE IV

1. The governing body of the Association shall be the Board of Directors, hereinafter called "the Board".
2. The Board shall be comprised of seven (7) or more members, elected by the general membership of the Association. Three (3) members of the Board shall be elected to represent public schools which are full members of the Association, of which at least one (1) member shall be elected to represent public junior high schools which are full members of the Association; two (2) members of the Board shall be elected to represent private schools which are full members of the Association; and two (2) members of the Board shall be non-affiliated individual members of the Association.
Additional members of the Board shall be any elected officer of the Association not already a member of the Board by reason of the above. No member school shall have more than one (1) representative elected to the Board. Elected members of the Board representing schools must be from the administrative branch or athletic department of their school. At least two (2) of the elected school representatives on the Board shall be principals or school administrators.
3. A Chairman of the Board and an Executive Secretary of the Board shall be elected from and by the members of the Board.

4. The officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, or a Secretary/Treasurer, who shall be elected officers of the Association, and Sports Commissioners, who shall be appointed officers of the Association.
5. Members of the Board shall serve for an indefinite period, each member serving until resignation and/or replacement by a majority vote of the membership of the Association. Officers of the Association shall serve for a period of two (2) years, July 1st through June 30th.
6. In the event a vacancy occurs among the Board members and/or officers of the Association, a meeting of the Board shall be held within thirty (30) days of the vacancy for the purpose of appointing a replacement until the next regular election.

ARTICLE V

Bylaws deemed necessary by the membership of the Association shall be adopted by the majority vote of the membership eligible to vote, present in quorum at the General Meeting, and shall have the same force and effect as if published as a part of this Constitution.

ARTICLE VI

1. A quorum for a meeting of the Board shall be at least one-half (1/2) of the membership of the Board. A quorum for a meeting of the General Membership of the Association shall be at least one half (1/2) of the eligible voting membership of the Association, with at least one (1) officer present.
2. General meetings of the Association shall be held four (4) times a year: in September; December; March; and May. Board members and the officers of the Association shall be elected during the May meeting and shall take office effective the following July 1. Board meetings shall be held at the discretion of the Board Chairman, or as prescribed elsewhere in the Constitution and/or Bylaws.
3. Additional General Meetings may be held at the discretion of the President.
4. The President shall be the presiding officer over all matters in the General Meeting of the Association.

ARTICLE VII

Any Board or committee member present at a meeting of the Board or a committee respectively, or any Association member in good standing present at a General Meeting shall be allowed one (1) vote on matters requiring a vote. There shall be no proxy voting. A member in attendance via telecommunication or internet connection shall be allowed to vote representing their school or as an individual member but not both.

ARTICLE VIII

Each member/school shall be assessed an annual membership fee. This amount shall be determined by the Board and announced at the General Meeting in May and shall be payable no later than September 30th of the following school year. The Board may also determine and assess any additional fees for operating costs of individual leagues or events sponsored by the Association.

ARTICLE IX

This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the eligible voting membership present in quorum at a General Meeting. Bylaws may be altered or amended by a majority vote of the eligible voting

membership present in quorum at a General Meeting. Amendments will be proposed in writing **and voted on at the same General Meeting as long as a quorum is present.**

ARTICLE X

This Constitution shall become effective immediately upon adoption by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership eligible to vote.

ARTICLE XI

1. The Constitution of the St. Thomas St. John Interscholastic Athletic Association was the first adopted on February 18, 1981.
2. A revision of the Constitution was ratified and adopted on June 24, 1982.

ARTICLE XII

No person, school or organization shall be denied membership in the Association because of race, sex, religion, national origin or handicap. No person shall be denied participation in any activity of the Association because of race, religion or national origin, nor by sex for non-competitive activities. Participation in competitive activities by sex or age shall be determined by Association Bylaws. Participation with a handicap in any activity shall be determined based solely on their ability to participate.

BYLAWS

In accordance with the authority established by Article V of the Constitution of the Association, the Bylaws contained herein shall have the same force and effect as if part of the Constitution.

1. RESPONSIBILITIES AND POWERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- a. The authority and scope of the Association shall be determined by and controlled by the Board of Directors.
- b. The responsibilities, powers and authorities of the Board shall be:
 - i. To interpret the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association.
 - ii. To approve applications for membership.
 - iii. To establish dues, fees and fines.
 - iv. To approve Association expenditures or investments over five hundred (\$500.00) dollars.
 - v. To approve appointments of sports Commissioners and committee members.
 - vi. To appoint replacements of vacancies of Association Officers.
 - vii. To hear and deliberate reported violations of the Constitution and/or Bylaws of the Association, and to determine, impose and enforce sanctions and penalties.
 - viii. To determine appropriate rules for all sports sponsored by the Association; and
 - ix. Any other responsibility, power and/or authority specified in the Constitution and/or Bylaws.
- c. Members of the Board shall serve without personal compensation.
- d. Meetings of the Board shall be called at any time by the Chairman of the Board, or on the order of three (3) Board Members.

- e. Board decisions are determined by a majority vote of the members of the Board in quorum.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES AND POWERS OF THE OFFICERS:

- a. Association officers shall serve without personal compensation.
- b. The President
The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association, who shall have the following responsibilities, powers, and authorities:
 - 1. To have general charge over the business of the Association.
 - 2. To preside over the general meetings of the Association
 - 3. To call any special meetings of the Association, or any committee.
 - 4. To appoint all Commissioners and committees, subject to the approval of the Board.
 - 5. To recommend to the Board candidates for the replacement of vacancies of Association officers.
 - 6. To report any major infraction of the Constitution and Bylaws to the Board; and
 - 7. To submit an annual operating budget to the Board by the September general meeting.
- c. The Vice President
The Vice President shall have the following responsibilities, powers, and responsibilities:
 - 1. To preside over general meetings of the Association in the absence of the President.
 - 2. To assume the position of President if that position is vacated, or the President is disabled, subject to replacement by the Board; and
 - 3. To certify all game officials.
- d. The Secretary
The Secretary shall have the following responsibilities, powers, and authorities:
 - 1. To keep the minutes of all proceedings of general and special general meetings called by the President, and distribute those minutes to all members; and
 - 2. To maintain all correspondence of the Association, as directed by the President.
- e. The Treasurer
The Treasurer shall have the following responsibilities, powers, and authorities:
 - 1. To receive and deposit all funds of the Association.
 - 2. To execute all expenditures of the Association, as directed by the President.
 - 3. To account for all receipts and disbursements of Association funds; and
 - 4. To present a complete financial report to the Association during the September and May general meetings, or as directed by the President.
- f. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined by approval of the Board.

3. TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP:

Membership in the Association shall be on a voluntary basis, and shall be divided into the following classes:

- a. **Full Membership** is limited to schools licensed to operate in the Virgin Islands, or to organizations approved by the Board, which meet the following criteria:
 - 1. Ownership or access to facilities adequate for the sports in which they propose to participate. Such facilities must also meet the criteria specified in the rules for each sport as defined in

the National Federation of State High School Associations, the International Olympic Committee, or the governing body selected for each sport by the Board.

2. Participation in at least one (1) of the major team sports **at any level, for the current sport(s) being played in any season.**
 - a. **Elementary Level**
 - b. **Middle School Level**
 - c. **Junior Varsity Level**
 - d. **Varsity Level**
 3. Approval of membership by the Board
 4. Payment of appropriate dues and fees, as determined by the Board; and
 5. In the first year following approval of full membership, the Board shall determine whether the school or organization is complying with the above criteria. The Board shall also determine, based on information from the President, whether any full member is continuing to comply with the above criteria and is entitled to continue full membership status.
- b. **Limited Membership** shall be extended to a school or organization which are unable to, or do not intend, to fulfill all the criteria for full membership, but must provide payment of appropriate dues or fees, as determined by the Board. This class of membership still permits a school or organization to enter any varsity and/or junior varsity schedule of the Association and to win trophies or awards. Determination of limited membership is made by the Board.
- c. **Individual Membership** is extended to any adult who is not a designated; or who is not affiliated to any member school or organization; and/or whose interests and goals coincide with those of the Association; who is approved by the Board; and who provides payment of appropriate dues and fees, as determined by the Board.

4. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

- a. Any application for membership shall be made to the Chairman of the Board. An application for a school or organization must be signed by the administrative head of the school or organization.
- b. The application for a school or organization shall contain the following information:
 - i. Type of school or organization, including type of license or incorporation
 - ii. Number of enrollment or membership, and if a school, the number of male and female students in grades 1-5, 6-8, and/or 9-12; if the organization that is not a school, number, ages and sex of members.
 - iii. Facilities available for athletic contests.
 - iv. School or activity calendar
 - v. If a school or organization, a statement on the extent of fulfillment or requirements in Bylaw 3a, and the sports intended for participation; if this statement does not apply, then a statement of purpose in joining the Association must be made.

5. PRIVILEGES OR MEMBERSHIP:

a. Voting:

i. Schools or organizations with full membership shall have a maximum of two (2) representatives, each of whom has one vote if present at a meeting, either in person or via teleconference or internet connection, in which a matter is put to a vote.

ii. Limited members shall have no more than one (1) voting representative.

iii. Individual members shall have one (1) vote. An individual member who may also be a designated representative of a school or organization is limited to only one (1) vote.

iv. Any member who has not paid current dues and/or fees shall be barred from voting until their account is current.

b. Schools or organizations with full or limited membership may compete in any league with each other and be eligible for awards or trophies, whether individual or team, sponsored by the Association.

c. Only representatives of a full member, or individual members not affiliated with any member school, may be elected to the Board.

d. Schools or organizations with full membership shall have the right to request examination of the financial records of the Association. Such a request shall be made to the President.

e. Each member school and/or organization shall receive two (2) copies of appropriate rule books for the sport in which it will participate.

6. RECOGNITION AS AN OFFICIAL SPORT BY THE ASSOCIATION:

a. At least three (3) teams, of which at least two (2) must be representing Association members, must be able to participate in a full schedule in any particular sport before the Association will recognize it as an official sport sanctioned by the Association and eligible for the appointment of a commissioner and for awards.

b. If fewer than three (3) teams wish to compete, they may make individual arrangements among themselves to schedule "exhibition" contests, which will not be officially recognized by the Association, not eligible for awards from the Association.

7. SPORTS COMMISSIONERS:

a. A Commissioner is an appointed officer of the Association and the executive manager of one or more leagues in any sport. A Commissioner for each varsity, junior varsity, middle school and elementary sport league shall be appointed by the President at the May meeting, subject to approval by the Board.

b. A person may be appointed Commissioner for one or more leagues in any sport recognized and/or sanctioned by the Association, and or in more than one sport in the same school year.

c. Qualifications for a Commissioner shall be:

- 1) Not a coach of any team in the league(s) he/she is to manage unless no other candidate is available and/or willing.
- 2) Willing to accept the duties and responsibilities of commissioner; see below.
- 3) Knowledgeable of the sport he/she is to manage.
- 4) Encouraged to be an Individual member of the Association.

d. Duties, Responsibilities and Authority of a Commissioner

A commissioner shall:

- 1) Be the executive manager of the league(s) for which he/she is appointed, directly answerable to the President.
- 2) Be subject to removal by the President for cause. Removal can be appealed to the Board only by the removed Commissioner.
- 3) Have a term of office of **two years**, unless removed or resigned.
- 4) Perform his/her duties without compensation.
- 5) Draft league rules, not in conflict with the Association's Constitution or Bylaws, policies or decisions of the Board of President.
- 6) Confirm with the President that all school teams are eligible to participate with or without restriction.
- 7) Approve all playing fields or courts relevant to the league(s) he/she is to manage, in accordance with game rules determined by the Board, and with particular attention to safety requirements. Advise schools of approvals/disapprovals, providing reason(s) for any disapproval.
- 8) Schedule all league contests. Make a league schedule at least three (3) weeks before the first scheduled contest. Distribute schedule to all participating teams. Schedule all contests, including post-season playoff and/or all-star games, within the season time frames as specified in or determined by Bylaw 17.
- 9) Select, train and schedule league game officials. Officials are required to be certified by National Federation standards.
- 10) Schedule and chair a meeting of league coaches at least ten (10) days prior to the first scheduled contest. Finalize and confirm league rules and schedules. Distribute schedules and league contract and roster forms. Advise coaches to have their athletic director and Principal sign and submit contract and roster forms by the Commission before each team's first scheduled contest. Advise coaches of medical certification and parental consent requirements for each player, and transfers when applicable. Forms are available.
- 11) Receive and approve all league contracts and rosters. Verify questionable or challenged information on rosters. Advise participating schools of all decisions on approval/disapproval of contracts and rosters. No team may participate unless a league contract and roster is approved by the Commissioner. Distribute copies of the approved rosters to all participating teams.
- 12) Decide any issue of player or team eligibility. Any decision regarding eligibility and the results of a contest therefrom must be based on verified information. Any contest in which an ineligible player or team participated is forfeited by the violating team.
- 13) Attempt to mediate any disputes between coaches and/or officials regarding any contest. Advise on protest procedures if necessary. A Commissioner cannot reverse the decision of the league official or the outcome of a contest unless an issue of player and/or team eligibility is involved; see above.
- 14) If necessary, postpone and reschedule any contest, in accordance with Bylaw 8.e.

- 15) Enforce any decision of the Board, President and/or Protest Committee.
- 16) Record outcomes of all league contests, as reported by the head game scorecards or records.
- 17) At season's end, determine league standing. Resolve any tie for first place in accordance with Bylaw 15. Ties for other than first place are not resolved.
- 18) At season's end, direct the selection of league All-Association team and Most Valuable Player in accordance with Bylaw 16. A selection meeting of league coaches and officials is recommended.
- 19) At season's end, submit a league report on the above to the President. Include any league expenses incurred and/or funds received.
- 20) Report any illegal, unethical, unprofessional, or unsportsmanlike conduct by a league coach, game official, school official or Association officer to the President. Report any such behavior by a player or student to the school administrator or athletic director.
- 21) Consult with President on any question on any of the above.

8. GENERAL RULES FOR COMPETITION:

- a. A school official, i.e., one who is certified or on the school payroll, or a registered official of the organization, must be present at all contests involving that school or organization.
- b. Member schools or organizations participating in any varsity and/or junior varsity league must submit to each other participating school or organization and to the league Commissioner an eligibility roster of all players on their team. This roster must include each player's full name, date of birth, grade in school, proof of athletic physical and proof of insurance required by the school and must be signed by the coach and/or athletic director and the school principal or organization head. This roster must be filed with the Commissioner before the team is eligible to participate in any league competition. Additions and/or amendments to the roster must be filed with the Commissioner prior to any participation of any added player, and notification of an added player or amendment must be made to opponent teams before any scheduled contest involving the added player.
- c. Each school or organization participating in any league must file with the Commissioner a copy of the final league schedule or a league contract signed by the school or organization head and the athletic director and/or coach. These signed schedules/contracts will be the official contracts among participating teams. Any protest of the league schedule must be submitted to and acted upon by the Commissioner prior to the publishing and signing of the final schedule/contract. Failure to comply with the above shall result in ineligibility for competition in that league. Once school or organization signs a contract for any league, withdrawal from that league may result in that school or organization being assessed a fine, and/or subject to suspension from any further participation in any other Association league as determined by the Board.
- d. Competition scheduled on an exhibition basis need not file schedules/contracts.
- e. If any team does not appear within thirty (30) minutes after the scheduled starting time for a contest, the team which is present wins the contest by forfeit, unless the present team rejects the forfeiture, or the Protest Committee rules differently. Also, if the playing field or court is not prepared for play as defined by rule, the home team forfeits the contest, except if denied by the head game official. No contest can be postponed except by unplayable weather conditions, or acts of God, which make the

playing field or facility temporarily unusable or inaccessible, or if at least one of the schools involved in the contest is involved in an officially declared strike by its teaching staff or is officially closed by the school's authorities. If any of the above situations occurs, the host team for any affected contest must immediately advise the league Commissioner and the other school. The decision to postpone any contest must be made by the Commissioner, or if in his/her absence and immediately prior to or after the start of the contest, by the head game official. No other reason except as stated above shall be considered acceptable for postponement of a contest. If any postponed contest cannot be rescheduled and/or completed before the end of the season for any of the above reasons, it shall be declared no contest.

- f. Each school or organization participating in any league must have paid all current dues, fees and/or fines payable to date prior to participation.
- g. Sexually mixed teams are permitted in any sport whenever separate leagues for men and women do not exist in either the varsity or junior varsity league, except in any sport where there are separate rules for men's and women's competition in the body of the rules adopted by the Association. Also, for a sexually mixed team no more than twenty five percent (25%) of the playing team on the field or court may consist of the minority sex; i.e. the sex not normally belonging to the league.
- h. Any team participating in a league must be properly equipped and uniformed according to the rules governing that sport. As a minimum, a uniform must consist of a distinctive T-shirt of the same color for each player and numbered for the purpose of player identification. For any league in which game rules require them, each participating team shall have both dark or bright colored and light or white colored uniforms to use to distinguish home and visiting teams as per the game rules for that league.
- i. Any team that is designated as host or home team for any scheduled contest shall have the following responsibilities:
 - 1. Provide the game field, court, or facility, prepared, and equipped as per game rules.
 - 2. Provide the game ball(s) and/or other contest equipment and scoring and timing devices and/or personnel as required by game rules.
 - 3. Clean the playing and spectator areas of the facility at the conclusion of the contest, even and particularly if the facility is not owned by the host or the host team.
 - 4. Pay all game officials' fees as per the rate(s) determined by the Board. Payments shall be made directly to the St. Thomas-St. John Interscholastic Athletic Association upon receipt of the Officials' Fees Invoice. All payments are due and payable upon receipt. Any school that does not pay these fees will not be eligible for participating in the next sport season until the invoice is paid in full.
- j. The host team or organization for any contest or event shall have exclusive gate and refreshment concession rights, and the authority to assign those rights.
- k. Each school or organization may enter **multiple teams in any division. If multiple teams are entered by a school, exchanging of players on rosters is not allowed. New players can be added to the team, not to exceed roster limits. New player(s) may not have played in this league for any other team.**

- I. **Private and parochial schools with low student population may move student athletes between junior varsity and varsity within a given school year in order to create a team for participation in a junior varsity or varsity league without penalty subject to Board approval.**

9. RULES FOR PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

- a. Each player must be fully enrolled student in the school he/she is representing and must meet the academic requirements of that school for athletic participation. In addition, a medical examination by a certified physician must be taken and passed by each player for the school year. The examination must be taken not earlier than May of the previous school year. The parent(s) or guardian(s) of each player must also sign a parent consent form for each school year of the player's athletic participation.
- b. **A player may not participate in any Association elementary level contest if he/she has reached his/her twelfth (12th) birthday prior to August 1 of the current school year or is not enrolled in 1st through 5th grades.**
- c. **A player may not participate in any Association middle school level contest if he/she has reached his/her fifteenth (15th) birthday prior to August 1 of the current school year or is not enrolled in the 6th through 8th grades.**
- d. **A player may not participate in any Association junior varsity level contest if he/she has reached his/her seventeenth (17th) birthday prior August 1 of the current school year or is not enrolled in at least the 9th grade.**
- e. **A player may not participate in any Association varsity level contest if he/she has reached his/her nineteenth (19th) birthday prior to August 1 of the current school year or is not enrolled in at least the 9th grade.**
- f. No player who has participated in any contest as a professional or semi-professional player is eligible for any Association competition in any sport.
- g. A student who transfers from one island school to another shall be eligible for Association competition if documentation is provided to and approved by the Board that the transfer resulted directly from parental preference or financial consideration, or academic reasons, or a request for a waiver from the above procedure is submitted to the Board through the President and is signed by the two Principals or athletic directors of the schools involved. Otherwise, any such transferred student not approved by the Board or waived is ineligible for any Association competition for one © calendar year from the date of the first attendance at the new school. Any student who transfers from an off-island school is exempt from these procedures and is eligible for Association competition.
- h. Any infraction of these rules automatically results in the forfeiture of all contests in which the infraction occurred.

10. RULES GOVERNING GAME OFFICIALS:

- a. All game officials assigned to an Association contest must be certified as competent and qualified for that sport, as determined by the Vice-President.

- b. When not possible, and when the Commissioner has agreed before game time, other officials may be used, provided they are at least eighteen (18) years old and not students of either of the competing schools.
- c. The National Federation of State High School Association rules are the final authority in all Association contests, unless determined otherwise by the Board.

11. RULES OF DISCIPLINE:

Any willful serious infraction or disregard for the stated goals or rules set down in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association and/or Board, officers or Commissioners of the Association, or for the rules of the National Federation of State High School Associations or the governing body selected for any sport of the Association shall result in sanctions and penalties against individuals and/or their school or organization of the individual(s) involved. These sanctions will be determined by the Board, after a review of the infractions presented by the President.

12. SERIOUS INFRACTIONS AND SANCTIONS:

- a. Serious infractions are defined as:
 - i. Violation of player eligibility regulations. (Bylaw 9)
 - ii. Forfeiture by refusal to play a scheduled game or contest. (Bylaw 8e)
 - iii. Failure to exercise control of spectators as pertains to the home team, or team followers as pertains to the visiting team, when such failure of control results in interference with the normal progress of the contest.
 - iv. Failure of the visiting team and/or team followers to honor the standards of good conduct to the host team.
 - v. Continuous or excessive absence of a member school's or organization's representation from official Association meetings.
- b. If any individual, school and/or organization should be found guilty of any of the above serious infractions:
 - i. The individual, school and/or organization may be censured, the removal of which is established by meeting conditions determined by the Board.
 - ii. The contest, if applicable, in which eligibility infraction(s) occurred, shall be forfeited if won by the violating team.
 - iii. For forfeiture due to refusal to play a scheduled game or contest, the violating team can also be fined. If a protest is filed as a result of a forfeited contest, the Protest Committee can recommend the imposition of a fine to the Board. The fine will include any expenses incurred by the offended team in preparation for the forfeited contest but cannot exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for any one contest. The offended team must submit an itemized listing of actual expenditure with a formal protest if they seek reimbursement.
 - iv. Probation of an individual(s), school or organization can be imposed by the Board. Probation will be for a minimum of one (1) calendar year from the date of the imposition and makes any individual team, school or organization on probation ineligible for any award during the period of probation.
 - v. Suspension of an individual(s), school or organization can be imposed by the Board. Suspension will be for a maximum of one (1) calendar year from the date of imposition and

takes away the membership of the suspended individual(s), school or organization, making them ineligible to participate in any Association contest during the period of suspension.

- vi. As a final sanction, the Board may expel an individual(s), school or organization from the Association. This action may be imposed for very serious or repeated infractions. An expelled member may not reapply for membership in the Association for a minimum of one (1) calendar year after expulsion. Such a reapplication is subject to the approval of the Board.
 - vii. Failure to pay Association membership dues by the first Friday of September of each school year may result in the imposition of an additional eight and one-half percent (8.5%) per month fine on the base of the amount of the dues as determined by the Board for that year. Any part of a month represents a full month.
 - viii. If an individual(s), school or organization is alleged to have committed any of the serious infractions mentioned above, a report is to be made to the Board by the President, with a copy to the violating individual(s), school or organization. The Board shall meet within thirty (30) days to consider the matter. The decision of the Board shall be sent to the violator(s) and the President within ten (10) days after the meeting of the Board.
- c. No Association member, Officer, Commissioner, coach, game official or player shall participate in or organize, directly or indirectly, any wager or betting activity involving an Association contest. Any person described above participating in such activity shall be suspended immediately from the Association. The Board shall determine the length of the suspension and any further penalty, which may include expulsion.

13. PROTEST COMMITTEE:

- a. A Protest Committee shall be composed of three (3) or more members of the Board, chosen by the Chairman of the Board. Board members not affiliated with member schools are recommended for the Protest Committee. A chairman of the committee shall be chosen from among its members to accept protests and schedule and preside at committee meetings. Decisions of this Protest Committee are not subject to appeal.
- b. A quorum for a meeting of the committee will be two (2) members.
- c. The committee will be responsible for making decisions on protests of the application and interpretation of rules of the Association during or related to an Association athletic contest. These decisions will be made only after a hearing with both sides. Protests will not be heard on any decision of a certified game official. Decisions of the committee will be final and not subject to appeal.
- d. The committee will respond in writing on their decision of a protest to the league Commissioner and both the protesting and protested schools or organizations within ten (10) days of the hearing of the protest.

14. PRESENTATION OF A PROTEST:

- a. Protests can be submitted in triplicate, with copies to the Protest Committee Chairman, the opposing/offending team and the league Commissioner within seventy-two (72) hours after the protested contest. If mailed, the postmark will determine the time of submission.
- b. A protest must be signed by the administrative head of the school or organization and the coach and/or athletic director of the protesting team.

- c. The Protest Committee Chairman shall determine if a protest is submitted within the required time limit and guidelines mentioned above, and if it is appropriate for a hearing of the Protest Committee. The Chairman shall call a meeting of the committee within ten (10) days after receiving the protest, if the protest is determined appropriate.
- d. A financial deposit, in a check or money order payable to the Association, and for the amount determined for this purpose by the Board, must be submitted with the submission of each protest. The submission of a protest is not valid if unaccompanied by the deposit. If a protest is not heard by the Protest Committee, or is heard and sustained by the Protest Committee, the deposit shall be returned or refunded to the protesting school. If the protest is heard and denied by the Protest Committee, the deposit shall be retained by the Association.

15. TROPHIES AND AWARDS:

The Board shall establish appropriate trophies and awards for individuals and teams. These awards shall be limited by the availability of funds in the Association and/or from sponsors. If there is a tie for first place after the final scheduled game in any Association league, a single league champion shall be determined by a single elimination game or series of games scheduled by the league Commissioner among the teams tied for first place. Names of the league champions are to be registered with the President for approval and submission to the Board for official recognition.

16. ALL ASSOCIATION AND OTHER INDIVIDUAL AWARDS:

- a. All Association selections will be made in volleyball, football, soccer, basketball, softball and baseball. The Commissioners of each of these sports shall call a meeting of coaches of participating teams in each league within ten (10) days after the end of the scheduled contests to select All-Association teams. The Commissioner shall ensure that a fair and equitable method of selection is used and shall register the final selections with the President for approval and submission to the Board for official recognition.
- b. An All-Association team for any sport league recognized by the Association shall consist of no more than the number of players necessary to comprise two (2) playing teams, as defined by the current rules for that sport.
- c. A track and field high scorer selection and a tennis high scorer selection will be chosen on the basis of total team points won by that individual at Association tournaments or meets in each respective sport.
- d. If a tie results in any individual selection, duplicate awards will be made.

17. SPORTS SEASONS:

- a. The following sports and time periods will determine the seasons of competition **for varsity, junior varsity, and middle school divisions**, i.e., when contests will be scheduled during the school year:

Football/ Flag Football :	second full week in September to third full week in November
Volleyball:	third full week in September to third full week in November
Cross Country:	first full week in September to last full week in November
Basketball:	second full week in December to last full week in January
Track & Field:	last full week in January to last week in March
Soccer:	first full week in February to second week in March
Girls Softball:	first full week in February to last week in March

Boys Baseball:	first full week in February to last week in March
Archery/Golf/Swimming:	third full week in March to second week in May
Tennis:	first full week in November to second week in December
Beach Volleyball:	first full week in November to second week in December

- b. For convenience of scheduling, the above times may be altered by a maximum of ten (10) days by the Commissioner of each sport league.
- c. The above times may be altered by the Board for any sport and any sport may be added to the schedule by the Board.

Respectfully submitted revision by:

Lecia Richmond, Executive Secretary

July 27, 2023