

TIP OF TEXAS VOLLEYBALL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION
CONSTITUTION

Approved: 9/22/2004

ARTICLE I: ORGANIZATION NAME

This organization shall be known as the "Tip Of Texas Chapter Of The Texas Association Of Sports Officials" herein called "The Association."

ARTICLE II: THE ASSOCIATION'S OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Association shall be to promote volleyball by striving to improve the quality, efficiency, consistency, and uniformity of officiating in the Association's designated geographic area.

ARTICLE III: THE ASSOCIATION'S DESIGNATED GEOGRAPHIC AREA

The geographic area served by the Association shall include Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Member responsibilities, rights, and voter eligibility in officer and By-Law elections are defined in this section. The association has three (3) types of membership status (Good Standing, Probation, and Suspension).

GOOD STANDING: Consists of all officials meeting the requirements as stated in the by-laws (ART.II, SEC.I). Members in Good Standing are eligible to vote and hold office.

PROBATION: any official who is placed on probation as stated in the by-laws (ART.II, SEC.II), is not eligible to vote, run for office or hold office in the season of their probation. This is in addition to any other sanctions imposed by the Executive Committee.

SUSPENSION: Any official who is placed on suspension as stated in the by-laws (ART.II, SEC.III), is not eligible to vote, run for office, or hold office in the season of their suspension. This is in addition to any other sanctions imposed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

All duties of the Association officers are set forth in the Association By-Laws (ART. I.). Officers* of the Association shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-At-Arms, and Assigning Secretary. They shall be elected on a specified date as set forth in the Association meeting schedule. A nominating committee shall be selected from the eligible voters of the Association prior to the election date and such committee shall submit a proposed slate of officers one meeting prior to the election date. The President will also seek open nominations from the eligible voting membership one meeting prior to the election date after the completion of both actions. Nominations shall be considered complete and final and no new nominations shall be submitted for election. Nominations may only be submitted at the meeting prior to the election, and shall not be taken on the date of election. Votes will **not** be accepted by proxy. Those nominated and receiving a plurality of those eligible voters present shall take office on February 1st of the next calendar year and serve terms of office as follow: amendment approved 8-22-12.

PRESIDENT	TWO YEARS, ELECTED EVERY EVEN YEAR.
VICE-PRESIDENT	TWO YEARS TERM, ELECTED EVERY ODD YEAR
SECRETARY	TWO YEARS, ELECTED EVERY EVEN YEAR
TREASURER	TWO YEAR TERM, ELECTED EVERY ODD YEAR
PARLIMENTARIAN	ONE YEAR TERM
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	ONE YEAR TERM
ASSIGNING SECRETARY	ONE YEAR TERM

*UNLESS OR UNTIL TERMINATED BY RESIGNATION OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES.

If a vacancy should occur in the Presidency, the Vice-President will assume the duties of the President for the unexpired term. If a vacancy should occur in any other office, the President shall appoint a replacement to finish out the term of the vacated office. The President's appointment must be approved by a majority of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the immediate Past President, President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assigning Secretary, Parliamentarian, and Sergeant-At-Arms.

The Executive Committee may make policy pertaining to Association activities as long as these policies do not conflict with the existing Constitution and By-Laws of the Association. Policies can be approved with a simple majority of the Executive Committee. When it is deemed necessary, the Executive Committee President shall establish certain committees to oversee selected needs and/or concerns of the Association. The committees' members and the members selected for the special programs shall be selected from the members in Good Standing of the Association.

ARTICLE VII: DUES

The Association has two (2) types of dues: local and state. Local dues are assessed to meet all expenses incurred by the Association.

Section I: Local Dues

Local dues are subject to change each year and require a majority of eligible voters to change it. Starting 2001, dues are \$35.00 per year. New members, defined as joining TASO and the Association for the first time, may be given a discount as decided each year by the Association Executive Committee. The discount is meant to encourage new member participation in the Association.

Section II: State Dues

Must be paid by the date set forth in the Association meeting schedule of the current season as set by TASO each year.

Section III: Payment

Members who have paid their state and local dues will be given preference in scheduling matches over members who have not paid their dues.

NOTE: ALL RETURNED CHECKS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE REIMBURSEMENT OF ANY BANK CHARGES TO THE ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

Section I: Meeting Dates And Number

Meeting dates and number of the regularly scheduled meetings shall be decided by the executive committee with consideration given to the most convenient time of the majority.

Section II: Meeting Place

Meeting sites shall be selected by the Executive Committee within an area considered to be in the mid-Valley. The Valley shall be considered for purposes of this ruling to extend from Roma to La Feria and the mid-valley shall be approximately equal distance between these two points or from the two (2) farthest towns with a minimum of 3 active officials for the purpose of this ruling.

Section III: Make-Up Meetings

The Executive Committee may, at its convenience, schedule a set number of make-up meetings for the current season of meetings. These meetings will be held on dates set forth in the Association meeting schedule.

NOTE: All meetings shall be governed in accordance with Robert's Rules Of Order unless otherwise stated in the Constitution or its By-Laws.

NOTE: To be given credit for having attended a particular meeting a member must sign-in at the time at which they arrive to the meeting and must stay at the meeting for at least 60% of the overall time of the meeting. If the meeting does not last a minimum 60 minutes, the meeting shall have to be attended in full by the member to receive full credit for attendance.

ARTICLE IX: ASSOCIATION ASSIGNMENTS

Section I: Assigning Secretary

The Assigning Secretary is an elected office and is part of the Executive Committee. The Assigning Secretary has sole authority in the assigning of all sub-varsity, varsity, non-district, district and tournament matches.

Section II: Officials

All officials will consider the assignment sheet as a legal and binding contract. It is the official's responsibility to get their assignments from the Assigning Secretary.

Section III: Assignments

The Assigning Secretary will assign officials in accordance with the By-Laws and the Association's assignment policy. The assignment policy will be approved by the Executive Committee and the TASO District Director.

ARTICLE X: FEES

The Association will follow the schedule of maximum fees for officials in the Constitution and contest rules of the University Interscholastic League (U.I.L.). Varsity tournament fees will be recommended yearly by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS

This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a simple majority affirmative vote of the eligible voters present at the meeting of the Association. All proposed changes shall be presented on the specified dates as set forth in the Association meeting schedule.

TIP OF TEXAS VOLLEYBALL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION BY- LAWS

ARTICLE I: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section I: President

- A) Call, prepare the agenda for, and preside over all meetings of the Association and the Executive Committee.
- B) Appoint committees and serve as the ex-officio member of such committees.
- C) Act as representative of the Association in any negotiations with any outside group.
- D) Attend all meetings.
- E) Appoint member to fill vacated officer position. (Art.V. Const)
- F) Appoint officer to run meeting in absence of President and Vice President.
- G) Co-signs, with Treasurer, all checks issued by the association.

Section II: Vice-President

- A) Substitute in the absence of the President.
- B) Head training program as presented by the Association.
- C) Is the official rules interpreter of the Association.
- D) Attend all meetings.

Section III: Secretary

- A) Keep and report the minutes of all Association and Executive Committee meetings.
- B) Answer any Association correspondences or refer it to the proper Association officer, and be responsible for any outgoing correspondences
- C) Receive, maintain, and update a current and complete personnel record of all Association members.
- D) Prepare a list for Assigning Secretary of officials who have paid state and local fees and who are on probation or suspension. Guidelines for preparation date shall be set forth by the Executive Committee.
- E) Attend all meetings.
- F) Prepare an individual scratch list listing for officials.

Section IV: Treasurer

- A) Receive, record, and deposit into the bank account in the name of the Association all dues and fees belonging to the state and local Association and record the payment of expenses authorized by the President and disburse association funds by means of checks which require the signature of the Treasurer. All checks must be signed by President and Treasurer.
- B) Submit to the general membership an itemized financial statement of income expenditures and account balance monthly.
- C) Will be responsible for sending a check to T.A.S.O. for all paid state members for the following year.
- D) Must submit to the Secretary and Assigning Secretary, a list of paid members and delinquent members.
- E) Attend all meetings.

Section V: Assigning Secretary

- A) Receive a list of ranked and scratched officials from coaches.
- B) Make assignments and notify coaches and officials.
- C) Receive lists from the Secretary of officials on probation and suspension. Receive lists from Secretary of officials who are delinquent in regard to dues or fines with the Association.
- D) Receive each official's updated officiating schedule and school scratch list.
- E) Receive all schedules for all junior varsity, varsity pre-district, tournaments, and district matches.
- F) Appoints officials to help schedule all sub varsity games and tournaments.
- G) Attend all meetings.

Section VI: Parliamentarian

- A) Observe that all meetings are governed in accordance with Robert's Rules Of Order unless otherwise stated in the Association Constitution or its By-Laws.
- B) Attend all meetings.

Section VII: Sergeant At Arms

- A) Keep order at meetings.
- B) Attend all meetings.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Section I: Good Standing

An official to be in good standing must:

- A) Pay all state and local dues.
- B) Not be on probation or suspension.

Section II: Probation

An official on probation:

- A) Must abide by the sanctions and requirements of the Executive Committee.
- B) Is not eligible to vote for the remainder of the season.
- C) Is not eligible to hold office for the remainder of the season.

Section III: Suspension

An official on suspension:

- A) Is not eligible to vote for the remainder of the season(s) of their suspension.
- B) Is not eligible to hold office for the remainder of the season(s) of their suspension.
- C) Is not allowed to call any games while on suspension.

ARTICLE III: CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFFICIALS

Section I: Punctuality

Officials should arrive at the game site 30 minutes prior to game to inspect facilities and equipment, discuss the ground rules, instruct the scorers, timers, and line judges and discuss any pertinent information with the coaches and other officials.

Section II: Dress Code

The official uniform must be worn in accordance with TASO rules and guidelines.

Section III: Unauthorized Substances

No official shall partake of any unauthorized substances prior to officiating or while in uniform after a match, which would impair physical or mental performance.

NOTE: UNAUTHORIZED SUBSTANCE AS DEFINED BY U.I.L.

Section IV: Behavior

Every member's conduct, speech, and actions during or en route to and from a match shall be above reproach, and should always demonstrate the example of true sportsmanship, courtesy, and self-control.

Section V: Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Both officials must report in writing any unsportsmanlike conduct, speech, action, or misconduct of a flagrant nature by coaches, players, or spectators to the local Association President and the Executive Committee of TASO who in turn will file a report with the U.I.L. office. Copies of the report will be sent to the administrator of the offending school.

Section VI: Criticism

No official shall criticize any other official or TASO member in the presence of coaches, players, spectators, or the news media either before, during, or after a match.

Section VII: Professionalism

No official shall cancel one officiating assignment to accept another.

Section VIII: Responsibility

Whenever it becomes unavoidably impossible to fulfill an officiating assignment, the official involved shall notify the Assigning Secretary in sufficient time – 24 hours or in an emergency as soon as possible. If proper notification procedures are not followed, then the assigned official shall be subject to a fine of \$5.00. Repeated cancellations could result in sanctions.

Note: ** In the event of a member of the Association fails to appear at an assigned match without proper notification the following consequences shall apply: immediate suspension of all match assignments for the official until the official appears for review of the failure incident before the Executive Committee.

Section IX: Soliciting

No member shall seek to influence a coach for the purposes of promoting personal officiating opportunities.

Section X: Game Knowledge

Every member shall seek to possess a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the letter and the intent of the playing rules and officiating techniques.

Section XI: Unauthorized Assignments

No member shall accept a varsity match (either preseason, district, tournament or playoff) that has not been assigned by the Assigning Secretary.

ARTICLE IV: VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Section I: Reporting

Violations of the Code Of Conduct, By-Laws, TASO rules or other incidents must be brought to the Executive Committee's attention in writing within 30 days of the discovery of the incident. Only those individuals with first-hand knowledge of the incident may bring the written complaint.

Section II: Open Meeting

It is a violation of the Code Of Conduct to bring Code Of Conduct violation(s) or other grievance(s), regarding a member, in the open meeting of the Association.

Section III: TASO Rules Govern

The TASO By-Laws and policies concerning notification, reporting, investigation, sanctions and appeal will govern the Association. In the event that the Association By-Laws conflict with TASO policies in any way, then TASO policies take precedence.

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