

# CONSTITUTION

## OF

### SAN DIEGO COUNTY FOOTBALL OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION (SDCFOA)

#### **ARTICLE I:        NAME**

This organization shall be known as the San Diego County Football Officials Association (SDCFOA) and shall be referred to in the Constitution and the By Laws hereafter as the Association.

#### **ARTICLE II:        PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Association shall be to provide quality football officiating service, to maintain and strive to improve the service through an education and training program; to promote fair play and sportsmanship among people involved in football contests; and to encourage good fellowship among members of the Association and others interested in football.

#### **ARTICLE III:       MEMBERSHIP**

##### **A.     Eligibility**

1. Membership shall be available to any person, 18 years or older by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the application year, interested in football officiating provided he/she fulfills the requirements of membership and has complied with the ethical standards of the Association.
2. Membership in this association shall be based on qualifications stated herein and in no way shall factors of race, creed, color, national origin, or sex be considered in such qualification.

##### **B.     Membership Classifications:**

1. **Probationary:** Application for membership shall be made in accordance with procedures and requirements as outlined by the Board of Directors. On approval by said Board, the applicant becomes a Probationary member, with neither office-holding nor voting privileges.
2. **Certified:** A Probationary member maybe granted Certified membership by a three-fourths majority vote of the Board of Directors provided: (a) He/she has served at least two years as a probationary member, (b) He/she has met all the requirements stipulated by said Board of Directors, and (c) He/she has the joint recommendation of the Instructional and Rating Chairpersons.
3. **Transfer:** Transfer membership status will be acknowledged by the Board of Directors upon receipt of a letter of recommendation from another recognized and accredited Football Officials Association.

A Transfer member must apply for membership as do new Probationary applicants, and he/she shall be considered a Probationary member for one year. He/she will then be eligible for Certified membership provided he/she has met all Association requirements and has received the joint recommendation of the Instructional and Ratings Chairpersons.

4. **Associate:** Associate Members are non-officiating members. Requests for Associate membership must be made to the Board of Directors in writing. An Associate member shall pay dues in an amount determined by the Board of Directors, but may neither hold office nor vote. Associate Members ~~maybe~~ ~~may be~~ restored to officiating status on written request to the Board of Directors. Said Board shall determine the status, Probationary or Certified, when the Association members resumes officiating.
5. **Affiliate:** Affiliate membership maybe granted to a Certified member who is an active official at the collegiate or professional level but not able to accept assignments from the Association. An Affiliate Member shall pay dues in an amount determined by the Board of Directors but may neither hold office nor vote.
6. **Honorary:** Honorary Members are those people who have been so identified by the Board of Directors because of their service to the Association. Included are those people who wish membership in the Association, but do not elect to participate in the activities of the Association. An Honorary member shall be exempt from payment of dues and he/she shall not be eligible to hold office.
7. **Additional:** An Additional Member is a member of the Association who joins the Association at a time when he or she can no longer fulfill the instructional requirements for that year. Additional Members shall not be eligible to vote nor hold office. Additional members shall pay ~~first-year's~~ dues as established by the Board of Directors. Additional Members shall be considered as either Probationary or Transfer Members, whichever applies, the following year. Additional Members shall not be given instructional program credit for the year in which they join the Association.

## **ARTICLE IV: GOVERNING BODY**

### **A. Board of Directors**

1. A Board of Directors consisting of twelve **Certified** members shall be the governing body of the Association and shall be referred to in the Constitution and By Laws as the Board.
2. One third of the Board shall be elected each year on a rotational basis. Should the President of the ~~Assoeoation~~ **Association**, whose term as President and as a Board member end concurrently, their Board term will be extended one year with all rights and privileges of Board membership. Thus, in such cases, there would be thirteen Board members.

### **B. Board Powers and Duties:**

The Board shall:

- a. Control and be responsible for all property and funds of the Association.
- b. Fix membership dues ~~initiation fees~~, and assessments,
- c. Determine requirements of membership.

- d. Determine qualifications and policies for assigning officials.
- e. Initiate education and training programs.
- f. Have the authority to interpret and execute the various provisions of this Constitution and By Laws and other matters related to the Association not specifically provided for in this Constitution or in the Bylaws.
- g. Set the time, date, and place of all elections.
- h. Have the authority to remove from office an Appointed Officer by a majority vote of the Board.
- i. **Have the authority to approve and modify the Association's Code of Ethics and the Mission Statement.**

## **ARTICLE V:                    **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS****

### **A.          Procedures for Nominating Directors:**

1. Per Article VIII, a Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President. The purpose of the Nominating Committee will be to secure and compile a list of qualified Certified Members to be considered for positions on the Association's Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee shall convene prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year to develop a slate of twelve nominees for the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee shall assure that the twelve nominees are certified members in good standing and are willing to accept the position of Board of Director member if elected. The Nominating Committee will then solicit the general membership for additional nominees and assure that they are certified and in good standing. The slate shall not include:
  - Current Nominating Committee members.
  - Current Board of Director members whose term will continue in the next year.
  - Those Board of Director members who have served two consecutive terms.
  - Officers of the Association and their subordinates.
2. The slate will then be presented to the Executive Secretary who will distribute the slate to the Membership to vote for eight nominees.
3. The eight members so determined shall be considered nominees for the Board. Ties shall be broken by lot by the President, the name or names losing being placed next in order on the list of nominees.
4. All returned ballots be retained by the Executive Secretary and shall be available to the Board at the next Board meeting.

### **B.          Election of Directors:**

1. At a previously publicized general meeting, the Executive Secretary shall deliver a nomination ballot to each Certified member present.
2. This ballot shall list the eight nominated Director candidates in alphabetical order, and shall direct that four of the nominees be selected. Any ballot carrying more than the designated four names shall be declared invalid. The four nominees receiving the greater number of votes shall be elected to the Board. Ties shall be broken by lot by the President.

3. The Executive Secretary shall maintain a record of the election results and all returned ballots shall be retained and shall be available to the Board at the next Board meeting.
4. Elected Board members shall serve a term of office of three years. A member of the Board may not serve more than two terms in succession.
5. In the event of vacancies on the Board, the nominee receiving the next highest number of votes in the Board election shall be appointed to the unexpired term of the resigned Board of Directors member. The same procedure shall be followed in the ~~vents event~~ of subsequent vacancies.
6. The new Board shall meet after the election with the incoming President as Chair and elect a President-Elect not later than the first Board meeting of the new office year.

## **ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS**

### **A. President:**

1. The President shall be the presiding officer at Association meetings and shall be the Chair of the Board.
2. The duties and powers of the President shall be the same as are usually attached to such office and other duties as this Constitution, the By Laws, or the Board directs.

### **B. President-Elect:**

1. The President-Elect will succeed the President when his term expires.
2. In the absence of the President, the President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President. The duties and powers of the President-Elect shall be the same as are usually attached to such offices and other duties as this Constitution, the By Laws, or the Board directs.

### **C. Past President:**

1. The Past ~~P~~resident will act as a resource person to the President, the President-Elect and the Board. In the absence of the President and the President-Elect, the Past President shall assume the duties of the President.
2. If the President, President-Elect and the Past President are absent, the Board shall elect a President Pro-~~Term~~Tem from those directors present.

## **ARTICLE VII: ASSOCIATION APPOINTED OFFICERS**

- A. The Board shall have the authority to appoint officers as needed for an annual term subject to reappointment at the discretion of the Board as needed for conducting ~~Assocoation~~ Association business. The Board shall outline yearly the duties and responsibilities of these officers and these officers shall be responsible to the Board for their performance in such duties and responsibilities.

- B.** When vacancies occur, positions shall be advertised at a time, place and method as determined by the President. Interested applicants shall be considered by the Board and ensuing appointments shall be for a period of one year subject to reappointment as provided above.
- C.** In the event that an Association appointed officer is unable to complete their term of office or is removed by the Board, the President shall designate an interim officer to complete the term with concurrence of the majority of the Board. If the Board does not approve the interim officer appointment, then normal procedures for filling the position shall be followed.
- D.** Compensation for the services of said officers shall be determined on a yearly basis by the Board.
- E.** Appointed officers may, with Board approval, appoint subordinates to assist them in their duties. Appointed officers and their subordinates will serve ex-officio non-voting members of the Board and cannot serve as an elected Board member while occupying any appointed officer position.

### **ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES**

- A.** The President with Board approval shall appoint Committee Chairpersons and members. Committees shall perform such duties and responsibilities as outlined by the Board and shall be responsible to the Board for their performance in such duties and responsibilities. Committees shall serve during the term of the President that appointed them.
- B.** The standing Association committees are: Crew Chief Selection, Mechanics, Mediation, ~~and~~ Recruiting ~~and Retention~~ and Nominating.

### **ARTICLE IX: RATIFICATION AND AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS**

- A.** This Constitution and By Laws shall be ratified by a two-thirds vote of the Certified members of the Association of said membership.
- B.** All Amendments to the Constitution and By Laws will be approved by a simple majority vote of the Board prior to being presented to the membership for a vote.
- C.** This ~~amended~~ Constitution and By Laws shall have been distributed ~~in a method as determined by the Board to the membership~~ and noted in the records of said Certified membership meeting at least seven days before a date is set for voting.
- D.** This Constitution and By Laws shall be amended by following the same procedures as formulated in said ratification of the Constitution.

### **ARTICLE X: LIABILITY**

No member, Director or Officer of the Board shall have authority to bind or obligate the ~~Association~~ ~~Association~~ unless specifically authorized by the Board.

**1. Existence:**

This Association shall continue in perpetuity unless terminated by a vote of two-thirds of the Certified members.

**2. Assets on Dissolution:**

Upon dissolution, any assets of the Association shall be liquidated after paying expenses of termination of its affairs, to include prorated salaries of appointed officers and outstanding debts. Any balance shall be distributed to a charity, so designated at the last official meeting held.

*Approved 3/12*