

# Texas Association of Sports Officials (TASO) TASO Soccer Tarrant Chapter By-Laws

## ARTICLE I

### NAMES, AFFILIATION, PURPOSE

**Section 1 – Name:** The name of the Association is the TASO Soccer Tarrant Chapter of the Texas Association of Sports Officials or Tarrant Chapter, which is a Chapter of the Texas Association of Sports Officials (TASO).

**Section 2 – Affiliation:** This Chapter is formed as an affiliate of TASO. In any matter not specifically referred to in these By-Laws and all matters inadvertently in conflict with law or practice of TASO, the Chapter affirms its intent to abide by the law and practice as defined by the TASO By-Laws.

**Section 3 – Purpose:** To provide for continuing development of soccer officials by improving communications, education, understanding and application of the National Federation Soccer Rules by its members and provide registration, scheduling and assigning of soccer officials to sanctioned games within the geographic boundaries.

**ARTICLE II**

**GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES**

**Section 1 – Area:** Tarrant Chapter shall provide officials for all varsity and/or sub-varsity contests for which a school or school district has requested such services, and Tarrant Chapter agreed for all soccer contests.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Section 1 – Applications for Membership:**

- A.** Any person whose application is processed in accordance with procedures established and approved by the TASO Soccer Division Board will join Chapter of their choice.
- B.** Returning, reinstatement or transferring members must be in “good standing” with the Chapter they were registered from any previous years/seasons. Members are defined as in good standing and have paid any and all dues and assignor fees.
- C.** A member may belong to multiple TASO soccer Chapters. The member pays TASO dues once and Chapter dues for each Chapter of membership. All post season playoff assignments may only be accepted from a member’s primary Chapter. A member’s primary Chapter is defined as the Chapter that member has requested to be affiliated with when paying TASO state dues.
- D.** Membership does not automatically guarantee any official of game assignments.
- E.** Members who violate the operating procedures, code of ethics or falsify information on the membership application shall, after due notice and disciplinary hearing, have their membership suspended or terminated. Members may appeal disciplinary action taken by the Chapter to the Board. Members who appeal disciplinary action shall abide by the decision of the Board.
- F.** Must have access to the internet with a valid email address entered into the Chapter assigning program to accept assignments and receive essential emails during the current season.

#### **Section 2 - Privileges of Membership:**

- G.** All Chapter members whose primary Chapter is Tarrant and their current membership is not suspended or terminated have voting privileges in selecting the elected officers and directors of the local Chapter and TASO.

#### **Section 3 – Termination of Membership:**

- H.** The membership and any interest or rights thereunder of a member who fails to comply with the provisions of Article III section 1 (above) shall expire at the end of the current membership year.
- I.** Members who violate the provisions and/or spirit of the By-Laws and operating procedures shall, after due notice and disciplinary hearing, at the discretion of the Tarrant Chapter Executive Board, have their membership and any interests or rights thereunder terminated. The member may appeal any such decision to the TASO Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Section 1:** - The Executive Board (hereafter referred to as the Board) shall be composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, TASO District IX Director, Training Director, Appeals & Disciplinary Director, Development & Retention Director and Director of Assessments.

**Section 2:** Each of the Executive Board Members shall cast one vote at Board meetings, the exception of the President, who shall only vote in case of tie. with

**Section 3: Powers:** Subject to the restrictions contained in any part of these By-Laws and those of TASO, the Board shall have full charge of the activities and general operations of this Chapter including any By-Laws updates and changes. The Board will provide a comment period and notify the membership 10 days in advance of finalizing any updates and changes.

The Board shall be empowered to rule on situations not covered in the By-Laws and to adopt all operating procedures and to govern its own deliberations. The Board is expressly empowered to designate and supervise a person or persons to assign referees for varsity and sub-varsity soccer matches that are played under the University Interscholastic League (UIL) and TAPPs sanction within the geographic area and for those other schools requesting our assistance.

**Section 4-Compensation:** No Board member of this Chapter shall receive any remuneration for any act or services done as an office on behalf of this Chapter, but this provision shall not exclude the reimbursement of individual members for expenses incurred in performing the business and affairs of this Chapter.

**Section 5- Training Meetings:** Attendance at a minimum to one of the Pre-season Chapter Training meetings.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **THE OFFICERS/DIRECTORS AND THEIR TERM**

**Section 1 – Officers/Directors:** The officers shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, TASO District IX Director, Training Director, Appeals & Disciplinary Director, Development & Retention Director and Director of Assessments.

**Section 2 – Term of Office:** The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, TASO District IX Director, Training Director, Appeals & Disciplinary Director, Development & Retention Director and Director of Assessments shall be elected two-year terms. The President, Treasurer, Training Director and Director of Assessments shall be elected in even numbered years. The Vice President, Secretary, Appeals & Disciplinary Director and Development & Retention Director shall be elected on odd numbered years. New Officers will assume their duties June 1 of the year elected and will remain in office until May 31 of the year in which their term ends. No elected Officer may succeed him/herself for more than two consecutive terms in any one position.

The District IX Director shall serve no more than two consecutive terms in office. The District IX Director is elected in odd number years by the TASO Soccer Board of Directors and serves a two-year term in office.

**Section 3 – Qualifications:** Be a member in good standing with the Chapter.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS/DIRECTORS**

**Section 1 – Officers:** Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the cast by the members. A slate of candidates will be presented by the Board. Nominations for this slate as well as any nominations submitted and accepted from the floor will be included on the ballot. Submitted biographies will be emailed to the membership following the ABM. Electronic Voting will be opened at a published time following the meeting and be open for 48 hours. Results will be certified and distributed to the members within 24 hours after voting has closed.

**Section 2 – Vacancies:** Vacancies of offices which occur during the term shall be filled by appointment of the Board with the exception of the President. Should the office of the President become vacant, the Vice President will succeed to that office for the uncompleted term.

**Section 3 – Procedures for Recall:** An officer may be recalled by a 2/3 vote of the Board or by a 2/3 vote of the membership voting. A request for recall must be filed with the Chapter secretary and approved by the Board, with the officer or officers whose recall is being requested not eligible to vote. A minimum of thirty days will be permitted before the vote from the membership is taken.

## ARTICLE VII

### DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

**Section 1 – President:** The president shall preside at all meetings of the Chapter and the Board. The President shall have general and active management of the affairs of the Chapter while the Board is not sitting, shall be responsible for the proper execution of all orders and resolutions of the Board and, in general, shall perform all the duties usually incident to such office or which may be required by the Board, or by other provisions of the by-laws. The President appoints committees when needed for the Chapter to plan, develop, establish and administer any duties, usually incident to manage with the best interest of the Chapter.

**Section 2 – Vice President:** The Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence, and generally perform all the duties usually incident to the office of Vice President or which may be required by the President, the Board or other provisions of these By-Laws.

Have direct communication with officials and the Athletic Secretaries responsible for payment of game fees for resolve of all issues.

#### **Section 3 – Secretary:**

- A.** The Secretary shall record all minutes of the meetings of the Chapter and Board, have custody of the Minutes Book which shall be available to the members, and shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office or which may be required by the President, the Board or other provisions of this constitution.
- B.** The Secretary is responsible for providing all soccer related communication to the Chapter's members.
- C.** The Secretary shall furnish the applicants with all necessary publications of TASO.
- D.** Have direct access and keep records of the current State TASO membership data.
- E.** The Secretary shall update Assignor's with applications for membership record of paid and ready to assign officials when requested by the assignors.
- F.** The Secretary shall have the ability and responsibility to audit and verify the active Officials and Game Assignments in the assignment software if requested by the Executive Board or the TASO Executive Board

**Section 4 – Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall have custody of all monies of the Chapter and shall deposit them in such bank or trust company as shall be designated by the Board. The Treasurer shall have the right, together with the President or Vice President to countersign all checks, drafts, notes or orders for payments of money. The Treasurer shall keep or supervise the keeping of accurate accounts of the finances of the Chapter. The Treasurer shall perform the usual duties incident to the office, or which may be required by the President, the Board or other provisions of this constitution. The Treasurer shall publish monthly summary reports to the membership and provide detailed financial reports at board meetings. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual budget and annual financial report for the Annual Business meeting.

**Section 5 – TASO District IX Director:** The District IX Director shall represent Tarrant Chapter on the TASO Soccer Division Board. District Directors shall serve no more than two consecutive terms in office.

**Section 5 cont.** - The District IX Director is elected in odd number years by the TASO Soccer Board of Directors and serves a two-year term in office. They will share with the Secretary information from the TASO SOCCER DIVISION BOARD related to the interest of the members and also send by email to all members.

**Section 6 – Training Director:** The Director shall be responsible for the training program and the necessary lesson plans, training aids, etc. of the Chapter. They will work with the State Training Officer and disseminate the information passed down from TASO to the Chapter. They shall serve as the official interpreter of the National Federation soccer rules and mechanics for the Chapter. They will be the liaison to the State Rules Interpreter involving rules which cannot be answered locally. They will develop on-line training videos to be available to coaches and officials and also be a current USSF registered instructor.

**Section 7 – Appeals & Disciplinary Director:** The A& D Director shall be responsible to hold hearings for misconduct, code of ethics violations or any reported incidents that involve our Chapter members officials. They will address reasons for incident reporting that involve consultation prior to sending the on-line report to UIL/TAPPs during the training sessions and send emails through the Secretary during the season with updates.

**Section 8 – Development & Retention Director:** To improve and help officials acquire the necessary combination of skills, physical fitness and knowledge to advance to their desired level of officiating.

**Section 9 – Director of Assessments:** Provide a list of eligible assessors (must be an active TASO member) and maintain a list of officials to be assessed to games and assign assessors that would provide positive feedback for improvement. Coordinate with Board and Assignors to identify best candidates for assessment.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **MEETINGS**

**Section 1 – Annual Business Meeting:** The Chapter will hold a general business meeting after the UIL State Playoffs at the end of season but no later than May 31st. Notice of such a meeting will be provided to all members not less than ten (10) and no more than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting. The time and place shall be determined by the Board.

**Section 2 – Training Session:** At least one group training session shall be held prior to the start of the high school season to discuss rule changes and other policies and procedures necessary for the coming season.

**Section 3 – Special Meetings:** Special meetings shall be held at the call of the President or the Board.

**Section 4 – Executive Board Meetings:** Executive Board meetings shall be held at the discretion of the President or at least three members of the Board.

**Section 5 – Vote and Quorum:** One tenth (1/10) of the registered Chapter members in good standing will constitute a quorum at general meetings. Four (4) board members, one of whom is the President or Vice President, will constitute a quorum at Board meetings. Each member present shall have one (1) vote.

**Section 6 – Conduct of Meetings:** Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **DUES AND FEES**

**Section 1:** Annual registration fees will be paid directly to TASO at the time of registration.

**Section 2:** Annual Chapter dues that have been established by the Tarrant Chapter Executive Board must be paid before any assignments are published.

**Section 3:** Referee assignor's fees will be paid to the assignor of record and paid by Assignor's published due date.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Section 1 – Notices:** Notices required by these By-Laws shall be sent by email to all Chapter members' last known email address that is in the current Chapter's assigning program.

**Section 2 – General:** Such regulations as may be necessary and proper for the conduct of business and affairs of the Chapter shall be provided for in the Operating Procedures, such Operating Procedures serving as an addendum to this constitution.

**Section 3 – Dissolution of TASO (State):** In the event that TASO or Soccer Division of TASO is dissolved or ceases to be recognized by Texas University Interscholastic League (UIL) as the provider of officials for all soccer contests the remaining funds in the TASO Soccer Tarant Chapter shall be at that time voted by the Executive Board to transfer funds to a new account name for the sole purpose of continuing the provisions of these By-Laws with new name or to completely dissolve with equal distribution of funds to current members.