



Illinois Hockey Officials Association

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

for the

ILLINOIS HOCKEY OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

Article I
PURPOSE

The purposes of the Illinois Hockey Officials Association (hereinafter "IHOA") are to register, train and evaluate duly registered hockey officials in the State of Illinois for the purposes of improving the quality of amateur hockey officiating in the state; to insure uniformity of rules interpretations; to create a better understanding between officials, coaches and players; to develop more efficient officials; to maintain the highest standards of officiating; and to provide a forum for discussion and a medium for dissemination of information on hockey rules and interpretations.

In addition, IHOA will cooperate with any organization authorized to sponsor tournaments in order to coordinate the methods and manner by which officials of IHOA will be selected and assigned to the tournament games. The qualifications of said officials will be the responsibility of IHOA.

In order to accomplish these purposes, IHOA will test officials, critique and evaluate officials, offer seminars on rules, skating and procedures, and maintain close contact with USA Hockey, its District Referee-in-Chief and the Amateur Hockey Association of Illinois.

IHOA is registered as a Not-for-Profit Organization with the State of Illinois.

Article II
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - Membership Qualifications

Membership is restricted to persons having met the requirements of IHOA as determined by the Board of Directors, which at a minimum shall include the requirements of screening and proper registration with IHOA and USA Hockey by November 30 of the season in which they sought enrollment, and having paid the annual dues of IHOA and USA Hockey. Membership in IHOA shall be renewed each year. The members will be classified by categories approved by the USA Hockey's District Referee-in-Chief. Members may appeal their category placement by notification in writing to the Registration Committee.

Additional classifications, such as, but not limited to, "Tournament Qualified," may be required, and qualifications and procedures for these categories will be established by the Board of Directors.

Section 2 - Voting Rights

Each member is entitled to one vote on any issue requiring the consent of the general membership providing that they are registered by November 30 of the season in which they have sought enrollment. The President has voting rights at all meetings, including committees, with the exception of meetings of the general membership where he will cast a vote only to break a tie.

Section 3 - Registration Fees

Registration fees for all classifications of officials shall be the amount deemed necessary by the IHOA Board of Directors. This amount is in addition to the fee paid by the official directly to USA Hockey.

Article III **JURISDICTION**

IHOA shall have final jurisdiction over all USA Hockey officials in Illinois.

Article IV **MEETINGS**

Section 1 - Annual Meeting

The annual meeting shall be held in the spring of each year for the purpose of electing officers and directors, and for the transaction of any other business which may come before the meeting.

Section 2 - Special Meetings

Special meetings of the members may be called by the President, by a majority vote of the Board of Directors or by not less than one-fifth of all the members of IHOA.

Section 3 - Place of Meetings

The President may designate any place within the State of Illinois as the site of any annual or special meeting. Special Meetings of the Board of Directors or any Committee provided herein may be held via simultaneous telephonic or electronic means.

Section 4 - Notice of Meetings

Periodic meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at a regular interval at a place, day and hour established by the Board and published to the general membership and no further notice of such meetings shall be required. Written notice stating the place, day and hour of the annual meeting shall be published no less than ten nor more than 30 days prior to the date of the meeting. In the event that a special meeting of the Board of Directors is required, this requirement is amended to read "written or oral notice" and "not less than 24 hours."

Section 5 – Quorum

A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

Section 6 – Proxies

Members of I.H.O.A. or its Board of Directors may not be represented by proxy.

Section 7 – Definitions

In all Articles herein, the following definitions shall apply:

“Published” shall mean made available by any means reasonably expected to be accessible to the general membership of I.H.O.A., including but not limited to posting on an internet website, broadcasting by electronic mail, posting in a periodical of general circulation in the hockey community, or a combination thereof. Each member is responsible to ensure their electronic mail addresses are correct at the time of registration.

“Written” shall mean fixed in a tangible medium that can be perceived directly or with the aid of a machine or device, including but not limited to electronic or magnetic storage means.

Article V **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 1 - General Powers

The Board of Directors shall have the power to run the business and affairs of IHOA.

Section 2 - Number of Members

The number of Directors of IHOA shall be 15 or, should the Amateur Hockey Association Illinois (AHA) Supervisor of Officials not be an elected member, 18; 15 of whom shall be selected by the members and will include the officers of IHOA (See Section 4) Each elected director shall hold office for three years; five directors to be elected each year. In the event of a vacancy by resignation or other reason, the President shall appoint a director to fill such unexpired term; in the event the President fails to make the appointment within 90 days from the date of the vacancy, the Secretary will call for a special election of the general membership to fill said vacancy.

Section 3 – Eligibility

Any qualified IHOA member, as defined in Article II, Section 1 of these By-Laws, shall be eligible for the Board of Directors.

Section 4 – Meetings

Meetings of the Board may be called at any time pursuant to Article IV, Section 4.

Section 5 - Ex-Officio Members

The USA Hockey Referee-in-Chief, the USA Hockey District Referee-in-Chief and the AHAI Supervisor of Officials, should they not be an elected member of the Board of Directors under the provisions of Section 2 of this Article, shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Directors, without voting rights.

Section 6 – Duties

The duties of the Board of Directors shall be:

A. Elect a President, Referee-in-Chief, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Registrar at each annual meeting.

B. To hear and rule on any matters or disputes for which another procedure is not provided for in the By-Laws.

Section 7 – Removal

Any Director elected by the general membership or appointed by the President to fill a vacancy may be removed by a vote of 10 or more of the voting members of the Board of Directors at a meeting at which 12 or more of the voting members are present when the Board judges that the removal is in the best interests of IHOA. Such vote shall be held at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors or at a special meeting called in accordance with these By-Laws. The Director proposed for removal shall be notified in writing at least 30 days prior to such meeting and shall be given an opportunity to respond. Notice of the proposed removal shall be published to the general membership not less than 10 nor more than 30 days prior to the date of the meeting and members shall be given an opportunity to comment on the proposed removal.

Article VI **OFFICERS**

Section 1 – Number

The officers of IHOA shall be the President, Referee-in-Chief, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Registrar, and shall be elected by the Board of Directors annually, immediately after the annual meeting. Any duly elected member of the Board of Directors shall be eligible for an Officer position.

Section 2 – Removal

Any Officer elected by the Board may removed by a vote of 10 or more of the voting members of the Board of Directors at a meeting at which 12 or more voting members are present when the Board judges that the removal is in the best interests of IHOA. Such vote shall be held at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors or at a special meeting called in accordance with these By-Laws. The Officer proposed for removal shall be notified in writing at least 30 days prior to such meeting and shall be given an opportunity to respond.

Section 3 – Vacancies

Any vacancy in any office may be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 4 – President

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the association and shall, in general, supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the association. He shall preside at all meetings, serve as an ex-officio member on all committees, call special meetings of the association or Board of Directors that he considers necessary and appoint committees and its members as required by these By-Laws or as he deems necessary.

Section 5 - Referee-in-Chief

The Referee-in-Chief will be responsible for all activities of I.H.O.A. officials with respect to training, rules, procedures and conduct. He shall be responsible for coordinating these activities with USA Hockey through the District Referee-in-Chief. He shall be Chairman of the Rules Committee, member of the Registration Committee, and an ex-officio member of the Rules and Ethics Committee. The Referee-in-Chief may appoint an Assistant Referee-in-Chief with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors.

Section 6 - Vice-President

In the absence of the President or in the event of his inability or refusal to act, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President and, when so acting, shall have all the powers of the President.

Section 7 – Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of and be responsible for all the funds of the association. He shall provide an annual report at the annual spring meeting and any other reports deemed necessary by the President. The Treasurer shall provide an economic report of the Association to the Board of Directors monthly.

Section 8 – Secretary

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings, see that all notices are given in accordance with these By-Laws, and in general perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary.

Section 9 – Registrar

The Registrar shall: (a) be responsible for the registration of members; (b) keep records of all registrations and memberships; (c) "certify" eligible voting members; and (d) implement procedures to coordinate registration activities with USA Hockey through the USA Hockey District Referee-in-Chief, and with AHAI through the AHAI Supervisor of Officials.

Article VII **STANDING COMMITTEES**

Section 1 – General

The size of any committee in the succeeding Sections will be the number shown, plus the President and any other ex-officio members. The Chairperson of all Committees identified herein shall be members of the Board of Directors.

Section 2 – Rules and Ethics Committee

The Rules and Ethics Committee will consist of three members of IHOA; the Chairman shall be a member of the Board of Directors. The committee is responsible for hearing and ruling on complaints regarding Officials and taking appropriate action against any member for violations of the constitution and By-Laws or for conduct detrimental to amateur hockey while officiating or while engaged in any other activity. The Rules and Ethics Committee shall establish its written rules and procedures regarding complaints, including, but not limited to, receipt of complaints, investigation of complaints, and hearings before the Committee.

Section 3 - Registration Committee

The Registration Committee shall be composed of the Referee-in-Chief and members of the Board of Directors appointed by the Registrar, the number of appointees to be determined by the Registrar. The Committee shall be responsible for the annual registration of Officials in Illinois. The compilation of their registration is to be passed on to the District Referee-in-Chief for certification with USA Hockey.

Section 4 - Rules Committee

The Rules Committee will consist of three members of IHOA appointed annually by the President. It shall be responsible for all rule interpretations and to consider and introduce proposed changes or amendments to the By- Laws of IHOA at the annual meeting or at any special meeting.

Section 5 - Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will consist of three members of I.H.O.A. to be responsible for presenting a Slate of Candidates for the Board of Directors. The nominations must be published at least ten days prior to the annual meeting. If any member wishes to submit a candidate or candidates in addition to those published by the Nominating Committee, he must do so in writing to the President prior to the annual meeting. No nominations shall be accepted from the floor during the meeting. The Chairperson of this Committee shall not be a current Board of Director whose position is up for election by the membership.

Section 6 – Referee Oversight Committee

The Referee Oversight Committee will consist of three members of the IHOA Board of Directors to be responsible for receiving and reviewing inquiries from both officials and the ice hockey community regarding the assignment of officials to various games.

The Committee is authorized to review received inquiries to determine, among other items, whether an official receiving game assignments was within the parameters and guidelines established by USA Hockey.

The Committee's findings with respect to any inquiry shall be reported to the IHOA President and the IHOA Board of Directors. If further action is required, the IHOA President may refer the inquiry to any other IHOA Committee or may refer the inquiry to AHAI.

Section 7 – Financial Oversight Committee

The Financial Oversight Committee will consist of not more than five members of IHOA to be responsible for the reviewing the financial position of the Association.

The Committee is authorized to review financial records to determine, among other items, the financial condition of the Association and may provide a report to the IHOA Board of Directors.

Section 8 – Performance, Education and Development Committee

The Performance, Education and Development Committee will consist of IHOA members not less than five, nor more than 9 IHOA members to be responsible for receiving and investigating requests from the hockey community regarding officials' officiating performance.

The Performance, Education and Development Committee shall establish its written rules and procedures regarding requests received from the hockey community regarding officials' performance, including, but not limited to, receipt of reports, investigation of reports, and hearings before the Committee.

The Committee's findings with respect to any inquiry shall be reported to the IHOA President and the IHOA Board of Directors. If further action is required, the IHOA President may refer the inquiry to any other IHOA Committee or may refer the inquiry to AHAI.

Section 9 - Committee Ratification

All committees, standing, or otherwise, and/or their members, appointed by the President or Referee-in-Chief are subject to review and approval by the Board of Directors.

Article VIII **AMENDMENTS**

Section 1 – Procedures

These By-Laws may be amended or changed at the annual meeting or at any special meeting of the general membership. Each proposed amendment must be submitted to the President who shall present it to the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee shall decide whether or not to recommend its adoption at the next annual or special meeting. No amendment shall be eligible for presentation at a meeting unless it shall have been published at least ten days prior to said meeting.

Section 2 – Adoption

The proposed amendment shall then be presented at the next annual or special meeting either with or without the Rules Committee's recommendation. After discussion, a vote of two-thirds of the eligible voters voting at the meeting shall be required to adopt the amendment.

ARTICLE IX **CONTRACTS, LOANS, CHECKS AND DEPOSITS**

Section 1. Contracts

The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name and on behalf of IHOA, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section 2. Loans

No loans shall be contracted on behalf of IHOA and no evidences of indebtedness shall be issued in its name unless authorized by a resolution of the Board of Directors. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section 3. Checks, Drafts, Etc.

All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of IHOA, shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents of IHOA and in such manner as shall from time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Deposits

All funds of IHOA not otherwise employed shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of IHOA in such banks, trust companies or other insured depositories as the Board of Directors may select.

Section 5. Financial Obligation Satisfaction

Should any Illinois hockey organization have any outstanding financial obligations to IHOA and/or Illinois hockey officials, IHOA may refer the matter to AHAI for their consideration and possible imposition of a financial suspension to the Illinois hockey organization. IHOA is not and will not act as a collection agency for outstanding financial obligations. Collection of outstanding financial obligations for officials lies with the official. However, IHOA may abide by any AHAI decision and further enforce its By-Laws and may refuse to assign officials consistent with the decisions rendered by AHAI for failure to satisfy any financial obligations.

ARTICLE X **FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of IHOA shall begin on the first day of June in each year and end on the last day of May in each year.

ARTICLE XI
SEAL

The Board of Directors shall provide a corporate seal that shall be in the form of a circle and shall have inscribed thereon the name of the corporation and the words "Corporate Seal, Illinois."

ARTICLE XII
WAIVER OF NOTICE

Whenever any notice whatever is required to be given under the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation or under the provisions of The General Not-For-Profit Corporation Act of the State of Illinois, a waiver thereof in writing, signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice.

ARTICLE XIII
DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

The assets of IHOA are permanently dedicated to exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or corresponding provisions of future laws). IHOA shall not be operated for pecuniary profit and shall have no capital stock and shall make no distribution of dividends to its members, directors, officers or persons having a private interest in the activities of the corporation. In the event IHOA is dissolved, the Board of Directors shall pay, satisfy and discharge all liabilities and obligations of IHOA or make adequate provisions therefore and distribute all remaining assets of IHOA to an organization or organizations engaged in activities substantially similar to those of IHOA and organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes as shall at that time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or corresponding provisions of future laws).

Article XIV
PARLIAMENTARIAN

The Secretary shall act as Parliamentarian at all meetings and IHOA shall follow the Robert's Rules of Order. In the event the Secretary's position on the Board of Directors is eligible for a vote by the membership at the annual meeting, any other current member of the Board of Directors, whose position is not to be voted upon, shall act as Parliamentarian.

As adopted at the annual meeting in June, 1974 and amended/ratified at the annual meetings in, 1975, 1978, 1980, 1995, 2000, 2001 and 2008; Reformatted 1999, 2000, 2001, 2009.