

# CONSTITUTION

## ARTICLE I - NAME

This organization shall be known as the AUSTIN BASKETBALL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION also known as ASSOCIATION (a non-profit corporation of the Texas Business Organization Code).

## ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of the ASSOCIATION shall be to provide a group of experienced and capable basketball officials, whose integrity is above reproach, to be actively engaged each year in officiating basketball games. Such group of officials will foster a high standard of ethics, encourage fair play and sportsmanship, and will work for closer cooperation and better understanding among officials, school administrators, athletic directors, coaches, players, basketball fans, radio, television, and the press.

## ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - Regular Members: Any person who can meet the qualifications specified herein shall be admitted as a regular member in the ASSOCIATION. The qualifications for regular membership in the ASSOCIATION shall be:

- a) A reputation considered to be above reproach;
- b) An acceptable knowledge of the rules and mechanics of the game;
- c) Demonstrated evidence of physical ability to officiate a basketball game;
- d) Possession of membership in an applicable certifying agency of the State of Texas, showing all dues paid;
- e) Payment of such dues and assessments as prescribed by the ASSOCIATION;
- f) Any current member of an applicable certifying agency of the State of Texas who wishes to transfer his or her affiliation to the ASSOCIATION after previously affiliating with another chapter will receive verification from the organization after confirming verification from their previous chapter secretary. The organization shall obtain a letter of transfer from the previous organization and present this letter to the Executive Committee for action; and
- g) Ability to meet and pass any other requirements prescribed by the ASSOCIATION.

Section 2 – Members on Hold: Inactive members are members who have paid their ASSOCIATION dues but are not actively engaged in officiating basketball games. Inactive members are not required to attend meetings of the ASSOCIATION. Inactive members have full voting privileges.

## ARTICLE IV - ADMINISTRATION

Section 1 - Officers: The officers of the ASSOCIATION shall be a President, a President-Elect, and a Secretary and the Immediate Past-President. The officers shall hold office as provided in the Constitution and By Laws. Additional officers or employees of the ASSOCIATION may be added to the association by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the total membership present at a properly called meeting of the ASSOCIATION.

Section 2 - Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall consist of ten members and shall be composed of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and the Immediate Past-President; a representative from Divisions I through V of the group classifications of the ASSOCIATION (5 individuals). The members of the Executive Committee shall perform their duties as provided in the By Laws. The President-Elect will serve as President the following year.

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## ARTICLE V - ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1 - Elections: The regular elections of the Secretary, President-Elect, and the five Division Representatives will be held on the last regularly scheduled meeting of the year and no later than March 31 of each year.

Section 2 - Term of Office: The term of office for Executive Committee will be from April 1 through March 31. All elected Executive Committee will serve a one year term.

Section 3 - Eligibility: The following restrictions apply regarding election to the Executive Committee of the ASSOCIATION:

- a) All candidates for election to the Executive Committee must be members in good standing with the ASSOCIATION.
- b) A member may only serve as Division Representative for the division in which he is classified. Members who will advance to a higher division at the conclusion of the current season are eligible to run for Division Representative of only that higher division. No person may be a Division Representative more than two successive years, regardless of the division(s) represented.
- c) The Immediate Past-President shall not be eligible to run for any Executive Committee position until one year has elapsed from the date the Immediate Past-President leaves office.
- d) No restriction shall be placed on the Secretary or Treasurer succeeding him or herself.

Section 4 - Election Committee: An Election Committee, chaired by the President-Elect and consisting also of the Immediate Past-President, the President, and two members-at-large appointed by the President-Elect, will be solely responsible for:

- a) Accepting proposed candidates and ensuring their eligibility for any Executive Committee position;
- b) Providing the general membership with a list of nominees beginning with the first meeting in January and at all subsequent meetings preceding the election. Upon submission of the Election Committee's final report at the meeting prior to the election, all nominations will be closed;
- c) Distributing and counting paper ballots or reviewing report of any electronic ballots.

Section 5 - Nominations: All nominations for Executive Committee will be made by the general membership to the Election Committee. Nominations will be accepted for proposed candidates beginning January 1 and will continue through the meeting prior to elections.

Section 6 - Election Process: The methodology used in conducting the regular election will be as follows:

- a) The election of Executive Committee will be by secret ballot prepared by the Election Committee.
- b) The election of officers shall be held in the following order: (1) Secretary, (2) President-Elect.
- c) Members of each division shall vote for their respective Division Representative only.
- d) Members of the respective divisions will sit in close proximity to one another.
- e) Signed proxy votes will be held separately, so that they may be opened and counted by the Election Committee and reused, as applicable, for runoff elections.
- f) Each member elected to the Executive Committee must have a majority of the votes cast on any ballot. In the event there is not a majority of votes cast for an individual position, there shall be a run-off between the two (2) candidates receiving the most votes in the initial election.

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- g) No person who has been nominated for an office will be involved in any activity associated with the election process.
- h) If electronic voting procedures are used, voting may commence one week prior to the last meeting and close at 5:00pm on the day of the elections.

Section 7 - Filling a Vacancy: To fill a vacancy in any Executive Committee position, the presiding officer may announce at any regular meeting that an election will be held at the next regular meeting to replace said vacancy. Nominations and elections will be held at the same meeting in filling vacancies. Should a vacancy occur between April 1 and November 1, the Executive Committee may appoint said person to serve until an election may properly be held.

Section 8 - Voting Eligibility: All regular and inactive members are eligible to vote. For those members not present, they may vote by proxy ballot as defined in the By Laws to the Election Committee prior to the election. In the event of a runoff, the original proxy vote will be applicable to the runoff elections as well.

Section 9 - No Multiple Positions: No person may run for or serve in more than one position on the Executive Committee at the same time.

### ARTICLE VI - REMOVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Any member of the Executive Committee may be removed for good cause through use of the following procedure:

- a) Upon written request by any regular member of the ASSOCIATION to the Executive Committee setting forth the specific reasons why a current member of the Executive Committee should be removed, the Executive Committee at its next properly called meeting at least seven (7) days after the request may consider whether sufficient good cause exists for the removal of the Executive Committee member in question.
- b) At the meeting at which the removal request is considered, the Executive Committee member in question shall be afforded an opportunity to address the specific reasons set forth in the removal request.
- c) An affirmative vote of three-fourths of the votes cast is required to remove the Executive Committee member from his elected position. If the Executive Committee member in question is not an officer, then action requiring a vote shall be handled by the Executive Committee. If the Executive Committee member in question is an elected officer, then any action requiring removal shall be submitted to the general membership for a vote in accordance with the election criteria for the said position found in Article V.
- d) Any vacancy caused by the removal of a Board of Director shall be filled pursuant to Section 6 of Article V of the Constitution.

### ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

The duties of Executive Committee and such regulations as may be necessary and proper for the conduct of the business and affairs of the ASSOCIATION shall be provided for in the By Laws, such By Laws serving as an addendum to the Constitution. The Constitution and By Laws may be amended at any regular or properly called meeting by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the votes cast, provided that a copy of the amendments proposed shall have been distributed to each member ten (10) days prior to the regular or properly called meeting at which the vote on the amendment is to be taken.