

## **ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS**

**As of October 25, 2022**

### **1. MEMBERSHIP**

The League shall consist of Members in the following categories who have paid the annual dues as decided by the Commission:

- a. Full Member, is entitled to participate as a regular player in league and play-off games.
- b. Associate Member, is not entitled to participate as a regular player in league and play-off games.
- c. Life Time Members, are entitled to participate as a regular player in the league and play-off games and no fees or dues are collected.
- d. Membership shall be valid from the scheduled day of draft in the current year to the day prior to the scheduled day of draft the following year

### **2. SPONSORS**

The League Commissioner shall solicit Team and League sponsors as approved by the Commission.

### **3. ANNUAL FEES**

- a. The annual fees for various categories of Membership and Sponsorship, and the fees for Substitute Players, shall be decided each year by the Commission and set out by the League. The annual fees of Membership, Sponsorship or Substitute Players may not be used to subsidize tournament teams or WESA rep teams. These monies may only be used to benefit the entire membership of the league.
- b. Annual membership dues must be paid forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled start of the annual player draft.
- c. Any member whose dues are in arrears shall forfeit their good standing and shall be removed from the membership role.
- d. Annual membership dues are non-refundable forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled start of the annual player draft.

### **4. VOTING RIGHTS**

- a. Only Full, Associate and Lifetime Members in good standing may vote and each person shall be entitled to one (1) vote.
- b. In the event that a person belongs to more than one category of Membership, only one (1) vote per person shall be permitted. For clarity, this means that

should a Full Member also be a Lifetime Member, that Member only has the right to cast one vote on any matter brought before the Membership.

- c. There shall be two (2) classification of votes:
  - i. a ballot cast for Commission elections; and
  - ii. a vote cast for or against an Ordinary or Special Resolution during an Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting of Members.

## **5. ELIGIBILITY TO HOLD OFFICE**

Eligibility to hold office or serve as a Commissioner, except where otherwise specified in these By-Laws, shall be limited to Voting Members of the League who are in good standing.

## **6. MEMBERSHIP TERMINATIONS**

- a. Resignations – any member may terminate their connection with the League by sending their resignation, in writing/email to the Commissioner, and their name shall be removed from the membership role.
- b. Expulsions – any member whose name has been brought to the attention of the Commission, in writing/email, on charges of:
  - i. Unsportsmanlike conduct, or conduct otherwise deemed to be unbecoming of a member of the League, may be expelled from the League by the Commission; or
  - ii. Failing to show up to team practices/games and not communicating this to their team manager may result in expulsion.
- c. The Commission, in reviewing a written/emailed complaint, will seek representation from all parties concerned.
- d. The member in question may have a representative of his or her choice present at the review providing 14 days written/emailed notice indicating the name of the representative.
- e. The Commission will notify the members, in writing/email, of a decision to expel the member in question from the League.
- f. The Commission will advise team managers of any membership terminations.
- g. The Commission's decision may be appealed at a Special Meeting of the League

## **7. MEETINGS**

- a. An Annual General Meeting shall be held each Fall.
- b. The Commission shall determine the time and place of the Annual General Meeting.
- c. Fourteen (14) Days notice shall be required for an Annual General Meeting.

- d. General Meetings can be called by the Commission at any time.
- e. General Meetings may be requested by the Members at any time.
- f. Special Meetings of the Membership may be called by the Commission at any time.
- g. Special Meetings of the Membership will be called by the Commission upon receipt of a petition signed by 10% of the Voting Members.
- h. A petition for a Special Meeting must include a Special Resolution to be voted on at the meeting.
- i. A quorum at a General or Special Meeting shall be 10% of the total number of Voting Members, or fifteen (15) Voting Members (whichever is less).
  - i. If, within 30 minutes of the time set for holding a general meeting, a quorum of voting members is not present, the meeting is cancelled and rescheduled.
  - ii. If, at any time during a general meeting, there ceases to be a quorum of voting members present, business may continue in accordance with the quorum established at the beginning of the general meeting.
- j. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of a notice by any of the Members entitled to receive notice does not invalidate proceeding at the meeting.
- k. Voting by Proxy is not permitted.

## **8. THE COMMISSION**

- a. The elected / appointed officials of the League as defined in 8(b) shall constitute The Commission, and be titled Commissioners.
- b. The Commission will comprise a:
  - i. League Commissioner;
  - ii. Vice-Commissioner;
  - iii. Membership Commissioner;
  - iv. Rules & Regulations Commissioner;
  - v. Special Events Commissioner;
  - vi. Secretary Commissioner;
  - vii. Treasury Commissioner;
  - viii. Technology Commissioner;
  - ix. Communications Commissioner; and
  - x. Equipment Commissioner.
- c. A current Member may hold more than one position defined in 8(b) if the position remains vacant and the Member is willing and able to fulfill the responsibilities of the position as appointed by the Commission.
- d. The League Commissioner will determine the responsibilities of individual Commissioners as set out in the League Appendices.

- e. Commissioners, with the exception of Treasury Commissioner, and Technology Commissioner, shall be elected by ballot. The Treasury Commissioner and Technology Commissioner shall be appointed by the other Commissioners.
- f. All positions of the Commission shall assume office following the close of the Fall Annual General Meeting.
- g. The following positions shall hold office for a period of two (2) years and their respective terms shall begin on EVEN calendar years
  - i. League Commissioner;
  - ii. Membership Commissioner;
  - iii. Technology Commissioner;
  - iv. Special Events Commissioner; and
  - v. Communications Commissioner.
- h. The following positions shall hold office for a period of two (2) years and their respective terms shall begin on ODD calendar years:
  - i. Vice-Commissioner;
  - ii. Rules & Regulations Commissioner;
  - iii. Treasury Commissioner;
  - iv. Secretary Commissioner; and
  - v. Equipment Commissioner
- i. In the event that a Commissioner is unable to complete a term of office, the Commission may appoint any eligible voting member of the League to hold office for the remainder of that Commissioner's term.
- j. The *Past Commissioner* will be an appointed position by the League Commissioner of the day as a non-voting member of the Commission responsible to the Membership to oversee programs and policies set forth by the Commission for a one (1) year term. The duties and responsibilities shall include (but not be limited to):
  - 1) Serves as an Advisor to the Commission;
  - 2) Oversees Special Projects of the League sanctioned by The Commission;
  - 3) Supports and defends policies and programs adopted by The Commission;
  - 4) Chairs nominating Committee;In the absence of a Past Commissioner, the League Commissioner of the day can select either a former predecessor of the Past Commissioner or a past Vice Commissioner to fill the position. The League Commissioner of the day can also leave the position vacant if choosing.

## **9. DUTIES & POWERS OF THE COMMISSIONERS**

- a. The League Commissioner shall preside at all meetings of the League and Commission.
- b. The League Commissioner shall not be entitled to vote at any League or Commission Meetings, except to break a tie.

- c. The Vice Commissioner shall, in the absence of the League Commissioner, perform the duties of the League Commissioner and when so acting, shall have all the powers and be subject to all the responsibility hereby given or imposed upon the League Commissioner.
- d. In the absence of the League Commissioner and the Vice Commissioner, the Commissioners may select a Chair for the meeting upon motion approved by 50% of the Commissioners in attendance. The Commissioner selected to chair the meeting shall not have the right to vote with respect to any business discussed at the meeting except in the case of a tie.
- e. The Commission will decide the League playing schedule, decide procedures for the selection and management of teams and decide rules of play for the League, as set forth in the League Appendices.
- f. League policies and processes should be set out and defined in the League Appendices.
- g. The Commission has the authority to modify the Appendices as required on a regular basis
- h. No Commissioner shall receive remuneration or other financial benefits for their services performed to the League, regardless of the type of service performed.
- i. The Commission will approve the annual financial statement of the organization by resolution prior to submission for the Annual General Meeting for ratification by attending Membership.

#### **10. COMMISSION MEETINGS**

- a. The Commissioner may call a meeting of the Commission at any time.
- b. The requirement for official quorum for a meeting of the Commission shall be 50% of Commissioners holding office.”.
- c. All resolutions moved at a meeting of the Commission require a majority vote of over 50% of the Commissioners present to be passed.

#### **11. TEAM MANAGERS**

- a. The number of Team Managers required for each season will be determined by the Commission.
- b. Team Managers will be appointed by the Commission and will hold office for a period of one year.
- c. Team Managers are responsible for ensuring that they and their team members are familiar with, and abide by, the League Constitution and By-Laws, and the Team Managers Manual.
- d. In the event that a Team Manager is unable to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the positions, the Commission may appoint any eligible Voting member of the League to the position of Team Manager.

#### **12. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

- a. Any Commissioner or Team Manager whose name has been brought to the attention of the Commission, in writing/email, on charges of failure to abide by the League Constitution and By-Laws, to adequately fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the position to which they were elected, conflict of interest, or conduct otherwise, deemed to be unbecoming of a member of the League, may be removed from office by the Commission.
- b. The Commission, in reviewing a written/emailed complaint, will seek representation from all parties concerned.
- c. The incumbent in question may have a representative of his or her choice present at the review providing 14-days written/emailed notice indicating the name of the representative.
- d. The Commission will notify the incumbent, in writing/email of a decision to remove them from office.
- e. The Commission's decision may be appealed at a Special Meeting of the League.

### **13. CONDUCT OF MEMBERS**

- a. All members must wear their current team jerseys during games.
- b. Unsportsmanlike conduct towards any member, umpire, and or scorekeeper, whether playing a League game, or during a Play-off game, or during a practice, will not be tolerated.
- c. Infractions of Article 13.(b) may result in a penalty or penalties as set forth in the League Appendices.

### **14. BORROWING POWERS**

The League shall not exercise borrowing powers.

### **15. POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS**

The League shall not have political affiliations.

### **16. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

- a. No bylaw shall be approved that contravenes the League Constitution or the League By-Laws.
- b. No League Appendix policies shall be approved that contravene the League Constitution or the League By-Laws.
- c. The Constitution and By-Laws of the League shall not be altered or added to except by a Special Resolution of the League passed by a majority of not less than 60% of the Voting Members present at an Annual General, or Special Meeting for all business, except any business that affects the voting rights of any category of Membership which would be 75% of participants at an Annual General or Special Meeting; and 50% of Members in the category affected who are at an Annual General or Special Meeting.”.

- d. Notice to propose a Special Resolution shall be deemed to be duly given if a signed by a proposer and seconder, both of whom shall be Voting Members, and delivered to the Commission not less than twenty (20) days prior to the Meeting, and the Commission has notified Voting Members (via mail/email) not less than fourteen (14) days before the General Meeting at which it will be dealt with.

## **17. RULES OF ORDER**

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (9th edition), where not inconsistent with these By-laws, shall be used, so far as applicable, at all meeting of the League.