

# T.A.A.F. CONSTITUTION

## Table of Contents

Table of Contents: Constitution	127
Article 1      Name	128
Article 2      Mission	128
Article 3      Membership	128
Article 4      Voting	129
Article 5      Dues and fees	130
Article 6      Government	130
Article 7      Officers	130
Article 8      Status and financial policy	130
Article 9      Annual Meetings	131
Article 10      Amendments	131
Article 11      Dissolution	132

## ARTICLE 1 NAME

- 1.1 The name of this organization is the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation, Incorporated.

## ARTICLE 2 MISSION

- 2.1 Its mission shall be to create and maintain in the State of Texas a permanent organization representative of amateur athletics and/or organizations, devoted thereto; to establish and maintain the highest ideals of amateur sports in the State of Texas; promote the development of physical education and to encourage the standardization of rules of all amateur athletics, games and competitions. The objectives of Texas Amateur Athletic Federation, Incorporated are both charitable and educational.

## ARTICLE 3 MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 The Federation will consist of organizations of a permanent status that are active and interested in the promotion of amateur athletics and representative of one or more sports in their respective communities.

- 3.2 CHARTER MEMBERS: The Federation has ten (10) cities that are known as Charter members; these cities are:

Austin	Corpus Christi	Dallas
Fort Worth	Houston	Lubbock
San Antonio	Tyler	Waco
Wichita Falls		

- 3.3 MEMBER CITY: A municipal / county Parks and/or Recreation Department, a community association or Municipal Utility District (MUD) Parks and /or Recreation engaged in promoting amateur athletics is considered a member in good standing providing:

- .01 All dues have been paid and there are no outstanding debts owed to T.A.A.F.
- .02 Each Member City in good standing will have one vote.
- .03 All members affected by this change are “grand-fathered”. They may choose and maintain the level of membership of their choice (2003-04 status / 2004-05 status) provided the member pays their dues and are in “good” standing.

- 3.4 AFFILIATE MEMBERS: The affiliate membership of the Federation will consist of any private facility, community agency, or organization (excluding Parks and Recreation Departments) located in a city wishing to participate in T.A.A.F. team and/or individual sports programs, meets or tournaments.

- .01 Within city limits of a Member City: An Affiliate organization’s membership application must be approved (for each sport affiliate membership) by the Member City.
- .02 Outside city limits of a Member City: An Affiliate organization’s membership application must be approved (for each sport affiliate membership) by the appropriate T.A.A.F. Region.
- .03 An affiliate organization will abide by all the rules and guidelines established by T.A.A.F.
- .04 Teams and/or individuals wishing to participate will register with T.A.A.F. at the established team and/or individual registration fee for the current year.
- .05 Any Affiliate Member may bid to host a T.A.A.F. State Tournament and agrees to meet all obligations required and specified in their bid to T.A.A.F.

- .06 Each affiliate member in good standing will have one vote.
  - .07 All transactions/payments for affiliate members (membership, individual registration, entries) is done online using accepted credit cards by T.A.A.F.'s online provider.
- 3.5 ALLIED MEMBERS: Any organization which is a National or State governing body of a particular sport or whose purpose is to advance the profession of parks, recreation and leisure services.
- .01 Organizations must provide one or more of the following when submitting application for membership: governing bylaws, written constitution or statement of purpose and organizational structure. This information is reviewed by the T.A.A.F. membership.
- 3.6 Membership in the Federation entitles a member to participate in all sports and activities promoted by the Federation.
- 3.7 Membership in the Federation can be terminated by:
- .01 Not paying annual basic dues
  - .02 A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board (and the existing paid-up members)
- 3.8 The T.A.A.F. State Office is responsible for providing each regional director with a list of all current members in good standing prior to the roster deadlines established by the region.

## ARTICLE 4 VOTING

- 4.1 When voting for officers and the convention site, each Member City in good standing will have one (1) vote.
- 4.2 For all other business requiring a vote, all members present and in good standing will have the number of votes allocated to them as provided by the following formula:
- .01
    - a) The total number of all combined individual sports participants registered for each member is **calculated proportional to the amount paid for a sports team**, which is added to that member's total team registration for calculation of that member's vote.
    - b) The total number of all combined of all N.A.Y.S Certified T.A.A.F. Coaches and Certified Officials registered for each member is divided by ten (10) to determine an equivalent "team number" which is added to that member's total team registration for calculation of that member's vote. This ratio is approximately proportionate to the revenue that T.A.A.F. receives from N.A.Y.S. Certified Coaches and Officials.
  - .02 The calculation of the total number of teams (.01) plus the individual participants AND Sport Certified Coaches (.02 A) plus the Smart Certified Parents and Certified T.A.A.F. Officials (.02 B) equivalent "team number" registered in the state in a calendar year is divided by the number of members.
    - a) This number is rounded to the nearest whole number.
    - b) That figure will serve as the benchmark for the number of votes each member shall receive.

Example: 15,000 teams registered, 125 members, the average number is 120:  
Therefore:

001 - 120	1 vote
121 - 240	2 votes
241 - 360	3 votes etc.

    - c) There is no limit as to the number of votes a member may receive based on team registration.

- .03 The number of votes is tabulated by the Executive Director and is determined by the total number of teams registered by the respective members as of September 1 prior to the annual meeting.

## **ARTICLE 5 DUES AND FEES**

- 5.1 The Federation will have the authority to levy annual basic dues for the current year.
  - .01 Cities or members that have not paid their annual basic dues for the current year will not be allowed to enter teams in the tournaments during the year, bid on a tournament or vote at the annual meeting.
  - .02 The fiscal year is October 1 through September 30.

## **ARTICLE 6 GOVERNMENT**

- 6.1 All towns and cities that have permanent municipal Parks and/or Recreation Departments engaged in promoting amateur athletics and sports and have paid their annual basic dues will constitute the governing body of the Federation and is called the general membership.
- 6.2 The Executive Board will consist of the following members:
  - .01 The President, the Vice-President (President Elect), all Past Presidents, all Past Executive Directors and one representative from each region, each region will elect these representatives. Any regional board member absent may proxy their position with a member city representative from that absent region.
  - .02 One representative from Texas Recreation and Parks Society (TRAPS) and one representative from Texas Public Pool Council (TPPC), with T.A.A.F. to have reciprocal voting rights on their executive boards. These representatives must be in attendance to receive a vote, NO PROXY allowed.
  - .03 A Past-President or a Past Executive Director must be in attendance to receive a vote, NO PROXY allowed.
- 6.3 All decisions made by the Executive Board, except for the appointment of an Executive Director, legal agreements, financial matters and amendments to the Bylaws is passed on to the general membership for final action by a majority vote.

## **ARTICLE 7 OFFICERS**

- 7.1 The elected officers of the organization are the President, Vice-President (President Elect), Past President, the Sport Commissioners and the Assistant Sports Commissioners.
  - .01 The President will serve only one (1) two (2) year term.
  - .02 The Vice-President will serve a two (2) year term during which he/she will also serve as President- Elect.
  - .03 Sport Commissioners are elected on an annual basis, approved by the Executive Board and the general membership.
  - .04 Sport Commissioners in Boxing, Golf, Gymnastics, Swimming, Tennis, and Track and Field, and Youth Basketball for boys and girls, will select a person as assistant commissioner.

This individual must be approved by the Executive Board and the general membership and will have complete commissioner privileges and responsibilities.

Other sports commissioners may appoint assistants to the commissioner upon approval of the state office and/or Executive Board.

- 7.2 Executive Committee: The President, President Elect and the immediate Past President will serve as the organization's Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is authorized to conduct business on behalf of T.A.A.F. during the year. All decisions made by the Executive Committee are subject to approval by the Executive Board.
- 7.3 Executive Board Members and Regional Directors: Each region will hold a meeting prior to September 1 to elect the Executive Board members and Regional Directors. The individuals are approved at the annual meeting by the general membership.
- 7.4 TEAMS: The President will appoint the members of all standing and special teams.
- 7.5 REMOVAL: Any officer elected by the membership is removed by the general membership whenever there is shown a sufficient cause and the best interest of the T.A.A.F. is served. Such a removal is without prejudice to the contract rights of the person removed.
- 7.6 VACANCIES: A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise, may be approved by the Executive Board upon recommendation from the members of the region for the remaining portion of the term.

## **ARTICLE 8 STATUS AND FINANCIAL POLICY**

- 8.1 Texas Amateur Athletic Federation, Incorporated is an organization normally receiving more than one-third (1/3) of its annual support from its members and the general public and not more than one-third (1/3) of its annual support from investment income. It is operated exclusively for the charitable and educational purposes set out in Article 2.
- 8.2 The President and/or Executive Director are authorized to accept any and all gifts, contributions, etc. and are authorized to sign contracts on behalf of T.A.A.F. All contracts are subject to the approval of the Executive Board and all funds must be used for the programs at the time and in the manner prescribed by the Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE 9 ANNUAL MEETING**

- 9.1 The annual meeting is held during the third full week of September. The site of the annual meeting shall be selected at least two (2) full years in advance.

## **ARTICLE 10 AMENDMENTS**

- 10.1 The Constitution and Manual of Procedures may be amended at the Annual Meeting of the Executive Board by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, and by a simple majority vote of the general membership.
- 10.2 Sports rules and regulations, as printed in the Cavalcade of Sports, may be reviewed and amended by the Executive Board and approved by a simple majority vote of the general membership.
- 10.3 Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board at any regular or called meeting.
- 10.4 Proposed Constitution amendments, changes in rules, regulations and/or MOP must be presented in writing to the T.A.A.F. state office and appropriate team chairperson by August 15 prior to the annual meeting. Information and recommendations from the Finance Team may be received after the deadline as situations dictate.
- 10.5 In the event of a conflict between the Sports Rules and the Manual of Procedures; the Manual of Procedures will prevail.

- 10.6 In the event of a conflict between the Manual of Procedures or Bylaws and the Constitution, the Constitution will prevail.

## **ARTICLE 11**

## **DISSOLUTION**

- 11.1 While it is intended that the life of the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation, Incorporated be perpetual, should its exempt status be terminated for any reason, all of its assets are to be distributed to one or more organizations serving amateur athletics in a similar manner and exempt at that time under the provisions of Section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Code of 1954 or similar statute then in effect.