

# Nassau County Soccer Officials Association Constitution

## Article I

### Name

The name of the association shall be The Nassau County Soccer Officials Association.

## Article II

### Purpose

The purpose of the organization shall be for the betterment of soccer in Nassau County. To promote uniform interpretation of soccer rules. To maintain a uniform standard of qualifications for officials and to promote a high standard of integrity and sportsmanship among officials, coaches, athletic directors and players in Nassau County.

## Article III

### Territory

This organization shall have exclusive jurisdiction in qualifying individuals to officiate Boys Soccer in Nassau County.

## Article IV

### Officers

Section 1- The officers of the Association shall be President, First Vice President, Second Vice President and Secretary -Treasurer. The elected term of office shall be two years. Election shall be by closed ballot and a plurality shall elect. Every two years the Second Vice President shall be elected and each higher shall move up except the Secretary-Treasurer. Thus the First Vice President will become President and the Second Vice President will become First Vice President.

Section 2- Only active members shall have the right to hold office and have the right to vote.

## Article V

### Board of Directors

Section 1- The business and operations of the Nassau County Soccer Officials Association shall be directed by a body known as its Board of Directors constituted as follows:

A- The President, 2 Vice Presidents and Secretary-Treasurer shall be members of the Board of Directors.

B- The outgoing President if accepted shall be a member and four other elected members.

Section 2- Election of members of the Board of Directors will be held at a meeting date to be determined by the Board of Directors each year. At the election meeting of the members the terms of office of one or more members of the Board of Directors will expire. At the same meeting, a member or members shall be elected for a term each of two years, but any member of the Board of Directors whose term as Director is about to expire shall be ineligible for reelection for a period of one year as a Director. Election of

members to the Board of Directors shall be upon nomination and vote of the general membership of the body by closed ballot and a plurality shall elect

Section 3- Vacancies in membership of the Board of Directors occurring between elections shall be filled by appointment by the President. The appointee to serve for the balance of the term involved in the vacancy. It is the purpose of this provision to maintain a full membership on the Board of Directors.

Section 4 General Powers. The Board of Directors has the power and duty to direct the affairs and policies of the Nassau County Soccer Officials Association, to bring into effect and maintain its provisions as set forth in this constitution and may as directed by act of the members taken at meetings thereof. It may exercise these powers and duties by itself or through supervision of the activities of the President. It shall between meetings of the members, in the exercise of the above delegated powers, and the performance of the above delegated duties the full authority and power of the association, to render emergency decisions in the best interest of the association.

Section 5- The Board of Directors (by a majority vote of Directors) shall appoint the official Rules Interpreter for a period of two years.

#### Article VI Amendments

Section 1- This constitution can be amended at any regular or special meeting by two thirds vote of the members present, provided written notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to each member by the Secretary-Treasurer at least ten days in advance of the date of the meeting when the vote is to take place.

Section 2- The Board of Directors may at any time request the Secretary-Treasurer to have members vote by mail, providing all the conditions as to proper notification have been met.

#### Article VII Quorum

A quorum to transact Association business at any regular or special meeting shall consist of one third of the voting membership. A quorum for a mail vote shall consist of two thirds of membership with a return by a specified date. A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of a majority of the Board of Directors.

### By-Laws of the Nassau County Soccer Officials Association

#### Article I Duties of the Officers

Section 1-The officers of this Association shall assume their duties of that year on the night of the annual dinner or December 1, if there is no annual dinner.

Section 2-The President shall preside at all regular and special meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors. The President and his representatives shall meet with BOCES assignor as well as attending meetings with the Coaches Association prior, during and after the season.

Section 3- In the absence of the President, the First Vice President shall assume the duties of that office and in the absence of both, the Second Vice President shall assume the duties of that office.

Section 4-The Rules Interpreter or his designated appointee shall assume the responsibility of the candidate school. He/She shall be responsible for the training and testing (written and field) for all the new candidates.

Section 5-Secretary-Treasurer duties shall consist of:

A-keep the records of the procedures of every regular and special meeting of the Association and the Board of Directors. He will make the minutes available to the Association in a timely fashion.

B- receive and disburse Association funds and keep an account of such transactions.

C-maintain a classified directory of the Association membership.

D-distribute such materials as may be available to members, including examinations, rules books etc.

E-submit the Association books for an annual audit.

F-prepare a financial report for presentation at the annual meeting.

## Article II

### Types of Membership

Section1- The membership of the Association shall consist of five classes of membership; candidate, probationary, active, inactive and honorary.

Section 2-The minimum requirements for membership in this Association in each category are as follows:

Candidate Member-a-be at least 18 years of age. b-pay his/her clinic and examination fees c-pass the state exam with a grade of 75 or higher. d-receive a satisfactory grade on his/her field exam. e-pay his/her dues to officiate the upcoming season.f - after one year become recommended for Active Member status.

Probationary Member- a member who during his/her last season as an Active Member failed to meet one or more of the requirements as set forth by NYSPHSAA and/or has been placed on a probationary status by the Board of Directors for violations of the five point program.

Active Member- a member actively officiating in Section VIII who has completed all the points in the five point program as outlined in section 4 below, complied with the Constitution and By-Laws of this organization and passed the required tests with a score of 75 or higher to remain an Active Member, one must officiate through Section VIII and meet all standards in a current season.

Inactive Member- a member in good standing who no longer officiates games for Section VIII. All requests to go inactive must be made in writing to the Secretary and approved by the Board of Directors. A member may be inactive for one year and then return to his/her former level of officiating. A member who is inactive for two consecutive years must have the approval of the Board of Directors to return to his/her former level. Any member inactive for longer than two years must be recertified by attending the new candidates class(no fee) and pass the written and field tests. An Inactive Member will pay one half the current dues. A member with a physical disability who cannot officiate must send a letter to the Secretary to request a leave. This must be approved by the Board of Directors and his/her return to the same level must be approved by the Board of Directors as well.

Honorary Member-A member in good standing for at least 10 years and determined by Board of Director vote.

Section 3-Transfers- a member in any other approved high school association may transfer to this chapter with the status held in the previous chapter after verification, providing there is a reciprocal agreement with that association.

Section 4-to remain a member in good standing an official must: a-pass the National Federation, State or other approved rules examination b-observe the constitution and bylaws of their local and states officials association c-give satisfactory evidence of proficiency in the mechanics of and of competent performances related to the specific sport (Boys Soccer).d-attend a minimum number of meetings which include the mandatory meetings for that year. e-pay the annual dues assessed by this association.

Failure to do any of the above may result in the member being dropped from the organization by a vote of the Board of Directors. Those members who are inactive or out with a disability are exempt from the attendance clause of the above article.

### Article III

#### Committees and their duties

Section 1-Ethics Committee- the duties of the Ethics Committee shall be a confidential committee headed by the Past President and two Board of Directors. They will investigate the conduct of members of this Association and also the conduct of participants and the conditions of any game officiated by members. Their findings shall be made to the Board of Directors.

A-Penalty. A member may be expelled, suspended, placed on probation and/or fined as determined by the Board of Directors.

B-Procedure. The procedure after receiving a complaint is investigation of complaint by the Ethics Committee. Their recommendations are given to the Board of Directors, who shall determine disposition of complaint.

C-Right of Hearing. A member charged with any offense shall have the right to be heard in person or in writing before the Board of Directors.

D-Appeal. Any member expelled or suspended by this Association has the right to appeal to the state association whose decision will be final.

E- Notice of Discipline. When a member has been expelled or suspended, the Secretary shall notify all concerned.

F-Fines-fines to be paid no later than 30 days after a decision has been made.

Section 2-Movement Committee-A committee headed by the First Vice President, President and Secretary-Treasurer. The committee meets once a year with BOCES to review movement up or down within the Association. To move up to the Varsity level, a official must be in the Association two years, work a minimum of ten games the prior season, possess satisfactory ratings from the prior level, receive a minimum score of 85 on the written test and be in good standing. For an official to be moved down from the Varsity level, he/she must be in the bottom ten percent of the rated Varsity officials for two consecutive years. He/she will receive a letter from BOCES after the first year and if ratings do not improve the second year faces the possible drop to a lower level.

### Article IV

#### Attendance and Examinations

Section 1-Meetings shall consist of 1-a Rules Interpretation meeting (mandatory) 2-Test meeting (mandatory) 3-Test review, modified rules review and nominations 4- Elections meeting and playoff procedure review (mandatory) 5-Dinner meeting. All members will get credit for the dinner meeting.

Section 2- A member who fails to fulfill the requires attendance of meetings or fails to take the annual written exam will be disciplined by the Board of Directors.

Section 3- A member in good standing who fails to attend the annual Rules Interpretation meeting of this Association or another High School Association may have his/her schedule revoked immediately or until he/she qualifies for a schedule.

## Article V

### Fees, Dues and Assessments

Section 1-annual membership dues shall be established by the Board of Directors and approved by the general membership.

Section 2-all dues shall be paid by November first. A fine will be levied for all dues paid after that date as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 3- all new candidates will pay a registration fee for the candidate school to be determined by the Board of Directors as well as dues for that current year.

Section 4-fines will be levied for violations of the Association bylaws as follows \$25 first offense, \$50 second offense \$100 third and final offense.

Section 5-the Rules Interpreter shall be reimbursed for his expenses paid for his travel to the New York State Interpretation Meeting.

Section 6-officers fees-to be established by the Board of Directors for the candidate school and secretary/treasurer.

## Article VI

### Assignments

Section 1-an official working/accepting ten games maintains his/her official status level.

Section 2-a Varsity official must accept at least ten regular season games to be eligible to work in the playoffs. He must take either the college or high school running test to be eligible to officiate a regional or a state game.

## Article VII

### Code of Ethics

Section 1-a Nassau County Soccer Official Association member should;

a-conduct oneself in a professional manner.

b-have a thorough knowledge of the rules and mechanics of soccer officiating.

c-wear the official uniform as adopted the NY State Association.

d- report to the assigned school in sufficient time (15 minutes prior to game time) to take care of pre-game responsibilities.

e-strive for consistency and control during the game.

f-do everything possible to assist and aid any fellow official to officiate a good game and better themselves as officials

g-never make statements to coaches, teams, affiliates or the news media concerning a soccer game..

**YOUR PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT SHOULD CARRY OVER!!!!**