

**BY-LAWS
OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY BASEBALL OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION**

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Orange County Baseball Officials' Association is to develop, manage, and maintain high standards of baseball officiating throughout its area of jurisdiction for the California Interscholastic Federation as prescribed by the articles set forth.

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this Association is the ORANGE COUNTY BASEBALL OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION, an unincorporated, non-profit organization being the Orange County unit of the Southern California Baseball Officials' Association.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility.

Membership in the Association shall be available to any person interested in officiating California Interscholastic Federation baseball in Orange County, provided they fulfill the obligations of membership described below and carry a minimum of a \$1,000,000.00 (one million) liability insurance policy.

Section 2. Classification.

There shall be three (3) classes of membership in the Association:

(a) Qualified:

A qualified member shall have the right to vote, hold office, receive game assignments, and enjoy all other privileges and benefits of membership in the association.

Qualified members shall be one who:

- (1) Achieves at least the minimum passing grade in a qualifying examination;
- (2) Takes and passes all other required assignments as board determines;
- (3) Pay the applicable dues and fees imposed by the board of directors;
- (4) Attends the required number of Association meetings set by the board of directors;
- (5) Does not engage in conduct detrimental to the welfare and purpose of the association.

(b) Nonqualified members

Nonqualified have the right to vote, receive game assignments and enjoy such benefits and privileges of membership in the association as the board of directors may grant. They are not eligible for playoffs or advancement in the association.

(1) Fails to meet the minimum qualifications of the association.

(2) Engages in conduct detrimental to the welfare and purpose of the association

The Board of Directors, upon determining a member has failed to meet and maintain all of the requirements for qualified status, inform said member, in writing, within ten (10) days of such a determination.

Thirty (30) days after being so informed, if said member has failed to remedy the noticed deficiencies, or provide sufficient evidence that all requirements for qualified status have been, or 'will be satisfied, the status of said member 'will be Nonqualified, and the Assigner and Secretary will be so informed by the Instructional Chair.

(c) Life Member:

Upon retirement after twenty (20) years or more of having been a qualified member of the Association, any member may request and be granted life membership, which shall be honorary in nature. The Board of Directors may decide to grant life membership status to any retiring official having less than twenty (20) years of qualified membership, if such member has rendered distinguished service to the Association. A life member shall not hold office, and shall not be eligible for game assignments, but shall have the right to vote and to otherwise enjoy the privileges and benefits of membership in the Association without being required to pay dues.

**ARTICLE III
ORGANIZATION**

Section 1. Board of Directors.

- (a) The governing body of the Association shall be a Board of Directors, which shall have the following powers and duties:
- (1) It shall exercise general supervision of all officers, committees, and members of the Association.
 - (2) It shall enforce the provisions of the Articles and make recommendations and decisions with regard to matters affecting the Association.
 - (3) It shall govern and supervise the expenditure of funds.
 - (4) It shall set the amount of fees paid, if any, to officers, assignor, and/or instructors of the Association.
 - (5) It shall set the amount of dues paid by the members of the Association.
 - (6) It, upon recommendation of the Instructional Chair and/or Board of Directors, may remove any instructor who fails to fulfill assigned responsibilities.
 - (7) It shall meet at least five times annually. Said meetings shall be:
 - (a) In the Fall
 - (b) No later than two (2) weeks prior to the first meeting of the members of the Association.
 - (c) Mid-season
 - (d) Playoffs
 - (e) Prior to the conclusion of each fiscal year for end of season and transitional issues.
 - (f) Additional meetings may be held at the discretion of the president or majority of the board of directors.
 - (8) It shall appoint the Nomination Committee.
 - (9) It shall, from time to time, appoint an Assignor (who shall have such duties as are determined by the Board of Directors), an Instructional Chair, and a Secretary/Treasurer, all of whom shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. Any member of the association shall be eligible for appointment to the office, including any disinterested member of the Board of Directors, who shall be deemed to have resigned his Board position upon assuming said office.
- (b) The authorized number of Directors of the Association shall be nine (9), including the following:
- (1) President (two years)
 - (2) Vice-President (one year)
The Vice-president shall be chosen from one of the eight (8) at large members. He is selected by a majority of the Board of Directors.

- (3) Eight (8) Members-at-Large (two years each)
- (c) Except as otherwise provided herein, each Director shall be elected by the members to serve until a successor is elected. All newly elected officers shall begin their term on July 1 following the election.
- (d) Except the office of President, (in which case the vice president assumes the office of the president for the remainder of the term), vacancies in the Board of Directors or Officers may be filled by a vote of the remaining Directors, and each Director or Officer so elected shall hold office until end of term. A vacancy or vacancies shall be deemed to exist in the case of resignation, death, disability, or the inability to act of any Director or Officer.
- (e) Six (6) Directors shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the action of a majority of the Directors present at any meeting at which there is a quorum, when duly assembled, shall be valid so long as reasonable notice of any said meeting has been given to all Directors. Each Director shall have one (1) vote.

Section 2. Officers.

(a) The President shall;

- Preside at all meetings of the members of the Association and the Board of Directors.
- Schedules meetings of the Board of Directors.
- Establishes committees to further the purpose of the Association and appoint Chairs thereof except the Ethics and Nominations Committee.
- Request that these Articles be revised or amended, and appoint a committee to recommend such revisions or amendments as are deemed necessary.
- Supervise and oversee the affairs of the Association and execute the will of the Association.
- Be an ex-officio member of all committees.

(b) The Vice-President shall;

- Serve in the place of the President in the event of the latter's absence or inability to act.
- Be Chair of the Social Committee.

(c) The Secretary/Treasurer shall;

- Keep a record of the order of business transacted by the Association.
- Give notice of all meetings of the Board of Directors and members of the Association.
- Maintain a current roster listing of all members, life members, and a list of all prospective new members of the Association.
- Or a designee shall oversee the counting of ballots at all elections and the tabulation of votes on all motions made at Association meetings.
- Issue all correspondence and notices on behalf of the Board of Directors and the Association.
- Provide to each member a brief explanation of the rating system and that member's personal rating.
- Shall deposit or hold, in trust, all funds received on behalf of the Association.
- Accounting for such funds to the Association no less than annually.

- Shall disburse such funds for the benefit of the Association as may be directed by the Board of Directors.

(d) The Instructional Chair shall;

- Appoint qualified instructors.
- Direct and supervise the program of instruction.
- Directing and organizing classroom groups.
- Preside over all portions of meetings relating to baseball rules and officiating mechanics.
- Prepare, maintain, update a list of officials' ratings and notify each member of his/her individual rating.
- Recommend a fair and equitable system of rating or grading member officials which, in order to be valid, must be duly adopted by the Board Of Directors.

Section 3 Ratings Appeals:

(a) Rating Appeals:

- A member may appeal their personal rating no more than once each year, to the Board of Directors.
- The board shall;
 - (1) Review past evaluations and performances no fee charged for this appeal.
 - (2) Request a new on field evaluation. A fee, set by the board of directors, should be charged for the new evaluation to the umpire appealing his rating.

Section 4. Election

- Ballots shall be distributed during the last regularly scheduled classroom meeting of the association, which is neither a make-up meeting nor a meeting solely for playoff officials.
- The instructors in each classroom shall distribute the ballots to all members in attendance.
- Ballots shall be collected by the instructors and returned to the Nomination Committee .
- The Secretary and the Nomination Committee shall count ballots.
- The secretary shall announce to all the classrooms the results immediately upon certification.
- Candidates must win by a plurality vote of all ballots cast or force a runoff before any member may leave.

ARTICLE IV

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Section 1. General.

- Meetings shall be held as prescribed by the Board of Directors.
- The term "meetings" of the Association, as used throughout these Articles, shall include general meetings, clinics, and classroom instructional group meetings.

Section 2. Attendance.

All members shall be required to attend all Association meetings with the following exceptions:

- A member may be absent, provided he has a valid excuse for said absence, which excuse must be submitted in writing to and approved as valid by the Instructional Chair.
- The Instructional Chair for the remainder of the season must maintain a copy.

APPEAL of Decision:

- A member may appeal the Instructional Chairs decision to the Board of Directors.
- A member may attend a make-up meeting for OCBOA.
- A member may attend another CBUA units meeting and get a signed note from other units instructional chair stating that you attended their meeting.

Section 3. Quorum.

A majority of the number of members of the Association shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

Section 4. Rules of Order.

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings of the Association except when such Rules conflict with these Articles.

ARTICLE V

COMMITTEES

Section 1. Instructional Committee

- The Instructional Committee shall be responsible for providing an educational and instructional program to increase the efficiency and competency of the members of the association.
- It shall have the power to decide all matters relating to interpretations of rules, game situations, uniforms and mechanics.
- It shall establish and conduct the qualifying examination, develop and publish training material manual that it deems necessary for association.
- All other examinations, which it deems necessary or appropriate for its instructional purposes.
- The Chair shall be the Instructional Chair who shall select committee members who shall be Association instructors.
- The Instructional Chair shall submit a list of qualified instructors for approval to the Board of Directors-prior to the first association meeting each year.

Section 2. Ethics Committee.

Matters referred by CIF-SS shall be dealt with under board supervision in such manner and under such procedures as shall, in the sole discretion of the board, be appropriate, keeping in mind the

rights of the accused member and the nature of the accusation. The board may, but is not required to, choose to use the procedures outlined above for such matters.

- The board of directors shall appoint an ethics committee as soon as convenient after January 1st of each year.
- It shall consist of no more than five (5) and no less than three (3) members, none of whom shall be members of the board.
- The Board shall designate the chair.
- Any complaint deemed by any board member to be appropriate for the committee shall be referred to the committee.

The procedure for resolution of all complaints not referred by CIF-SS shall be as follows:

- Upon receipt of a complaint in writing, the committee shall conduct an independent investigation involving all concerned parties.
- Upon conclusion, the committee shall by majority vote either sustain or overrule the alleged violation.
- If the committee overrules the alleged violation the matter shall be terminated. If the committee sustains the violation, the committee shall send its decision to the board of directors.
- Any discipline imposed shall take effect at the end of ten days after mailing notice of the committee's action to the member, at their address of record, unless the member appeals the decision, in writing, to the full board of directors.
- Upon appeal to the board, any discipline imposed will be suspended pending a hearing. Which must take place within thirty days of the request
- The president shall be the presiding officer.
- The committee chair or its designated representative shall prosecute the charges.
- The member is entitled to representation by an attorney at his or her own expense.
- The hearing shall take place under relaxed rules of evidence.
- Competent evidence shall not be excluded merely because it would be hearsay.
- The decision of a majority of the board shall be final.

The procedure for resolution of all complaints not referred by CIF-SS shall be as follows:

Discipline may take any of the following forms;

- (a) Oral reprimand.
- (b) Written reprimand, with a copy to be placed in any permanent record of the member.
- (c) Fine.
- (d) Suspension, for all or any part of the current season.
- (e) Expulsion.
 - (1) Any member expelled shall have the right to apply for reinstatement before January 1 of any year. The board shall determine whether a member shall be reinstated or not and if so, on what conditions. Any decision of the board regarding reinstatement shall be final and non-appeal able for that year; however, nothing shall prohibit a member from applying for reinstatement in any subsequent year

Section 3 Rating Committee:

- The board of directors shall establish a rating committee comprised of a minimum of 5 non-board members.
- Shall continually evaluate all members in the association for the purpose of

determining a members rating.

- A member may request his rating file at any time.

Section 4 Nomination Committee:

- The first general meeting of the new year the nomination committee should be introduced to the members at large.
- The Board of Directors shall annually appoint a Nomination Committee of no fewer than three (3) non-board members.
- Who shall submit the names of at least one (1) member for each of the open offices.
- Two (2) meeting prior to elections, the committee's nominees shall announcec to the members present.
- One (1) meeting prior to the to elections, the nominations are closed at the end of the general meeting.
- The Nomination Committee Chair shall thereafter prepare a written ballot containing the names of all persons nominated for office and a space in which a write-in candidate's name may be entered.

Section 5. By Laws Committee.

The committee will recommend revisions or amendments of these articles to the board.

Section 6. Social Committee.

- The Social Committee shall have jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to the social welfare of the Association, including specifically the annual banquet.
- The Chair shall be the Vice-President, who shall select, at its discretion, committee members from those members of the Association interested in serving on the committee.

Section 7. Publicity Committee.

- The Publicity Committee shall be responsible for all matters pertaining to publicity and public relations with respect to the Association.
- The President shall appoint the Chair, who shall select committee members, at its discretion, from those members of the Association interested in serving on the Committee.

Transition Procedure.

These By-laws shall take effect immediately upon adoption. If adopted before 2004 elections, the following transitional rules shall apply:

- (a) Current Vice-president shall succeed to the office of President for a term which expires June 30, 2005.
- (b) In 2004 there will be six (6) member-at-large positions open for election. The four (4) candidates receiving the most votes will receive two (2) year terms. The 5th and 6th candidates elected will receive one (1) year terms.
- (c) In 2005 the Instructional Chair shall be elected to a one (1) year term.

THE FOLLOWING TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS SHALL BE IN EFFECT

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS. These By-laws shall take effect immediately upon adoption. If adopted before 2005 elections, the following transitional rules shall apply:

- (1) The Assignor shall continue to serve at the pleasure of the board.

(2) The Instructional Chair shall continue in office (but not on the Board of Directors) until October 1, 2005, at which time his term shall expire.

(3) The Secretary/Treasurer shall continue in office (but not on the Board of Directors) until October 1, 2005, at which time his term shall expire.

(4) All decisions to appoint persons to the offices of Instructional Chair and Secretary/Treasurer shall be made by disinterested members of the Board of Directors duly constituted on or after July 1, 2005, said officers to serve at the pleasure of the board.

ARTICLE VI

AMENDMENTS

These Articles may be amended only in the following described manner. The proposed amendment shall be presented in writing to the Board of Directors, signed by no fewer than ten (10) petitioners who shall be qualified members of the Association. The Board of Directors shall present the proposed amendment for discussion at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Association or at a special meeting called for that purpose. At the next following meeting the proposed amendment shall be voted upon by the members. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present shall be required to pass the proposed amendment.

The members of the Orange County Baseball duly adopted these Articles Officials Association in April, 1976.

Article II, Section 3 (b) was revised in March 1996.

Article III, Section 2 (c) was revised in March 1996.

Article III, Section 2 (d) was revised in March 1996.

Article V, Section 2 was revised in March 1996.

Article II, was revised in February 2004

Article III, was revised in February 2004

Article IV, was revised in February 2004

Article V, was revised in February 2004

Article III, Section 1 was revised in February 2005