

NORTHERN NEVADA LACROSSE OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION
BYLAWS

Article I
NAME

The name of this organization shall be Northern Nevada Lacrosse Officials Association, a non-profit organization.

- A. It may also be known as:
1. NNOA – Lacrosse, or
 2. NNLOA, or
 3. Association

Article II
PURPOSE

- Section 1. **Purpose:** The purpose of this Lacrosse Officials Association shall be:
1. To unite all qualified lacrosse officials into a unified Officials Association.
 2. To progressively improve and elevate the officiating standards of the NNLOA and to maintain high competitive athletic ideals.
 3. To cooperate with the National Rules Federation and US Lacrosse for the advancement of the sport of Lacrosse as a wholesome form of physical development and recreation.
 4. To study rules of the game and to discuss their intent for uniform interpretation, and to progressively improve the quality of Lacrosse officiating through improved techniques.
 5. To render a more efficient service to the leagues and the schools through cooperative efforts of the leagues, schools, coaches, and officials, and the development of proper professional attitudes toward the athletic programs.
 6. To promote and maintain proper officiating ethics, and to conduct each athletic contest as an instrument in the development of character, good sportsmanship and a higher regard for American citizenship.
 7. To provide educational programs to advance the skills of the Lacrosse official.

Section 2. **Concord:** During the time that NNLOA is sanctioned by the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association as a recognized high school officials association, these Bylaws shall not be in conflict with the CONSTITUTION OF THE NEVADA STATE OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION and the Agreement between the various NNOA Associations and the Member Schools of the NIAA. In the event of any inconsistency between these By-laws and the Constitution or Agreement, the terms of the Constitution and the Agreement shall prevail and shall supersede any inconsistent provision herein. This section shall only be applicable in the event and only during such time periods that Lacrosse is a recognized High School varsity sport and under the jurisdiction of the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association.

Article III
EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1: **General Powers:** The property, business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by its Executive Board, and the Board may exercise all legal powers of the Association.

Section 2: **Composition:**

A. Elected Officers:

1. The elected officers of this Association shall consist of the following:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President representing the boys' and mens' game (Boys' Vice President)
 - c. Vice President representing the girls' and womens' game (Girls' Vice President)
 - d. Secretary
 - e. Treasurer.
 - f. Member at Large representing the boys' and mens' game (Boys' Member at Large)
 - g. Member at Large representing the girls' and womens' game (Girls' Member at Large)
2. The term of the President and Vice President(s) shall be for two years, staggered so that the President and the Vice Presidents are elected in alternating years. The initial term of the President shall end in 2016 and the initial terms of the two Vice Presidents shall end in 2017.
3. The term of each other officer shall be for one year or until a successor is elected.
4. Each elected officer shall have one vote in all Executive Board business.

B. Commissioner: (this section shall only be effective during such times as the NNLOA is sanctioned by the NIAA as a recognized high school officials association)

1. The Commissioner shall be chosen and have the duties in accordance with the Constitution of the Nevada State Officials Association.
2. The Executive Board shall make recommendations to the Commissioner for post-season assignments and shall assist the Commissioner in making post-season assignments.
3. The Commissioner shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Board
4. This section shall only be applicable in the event and only during such time periods that Lacrosse is a recognized High School varsity sport and under the jurisdiction of the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association.

C. Assignor:

1. The Executive Board in conjunction with the Commissioner, if one is designated, shall designate an individual to be Assignor.
2. The Assignor shall have available to him a roster of Active Members, their dates and times of availability and the schedule of lacrosse games. He shall assign the appropriate number of available qualified Active Members to each lacrosse contest. Such assignments shall be confirmed by the Executive Board and, when appropriate, the Commissioner.

3. The Assignor shall be the point of contact of members for any schedule conflict, inability to fulfill an assignment or schedule change.
4. The position of Assignor shall not be an Executive Board position, but may attend meetings of the Executive Board as an ex officio member. A member of the Executive Board may hold the position of Assignor.
5. The Assignor shall be compensated for his services as directed by the Executive Board annually.
6. At the request of the Assignor, the Board may appoint one or more assistant or deputy assignors, with or without compensation at the Board's discretion, to assist the Assignor in performing his duties.

Section 3: Elections: The election of the Executive Board shall be held annually in accordance of Article V, Section 3 of these Bylaws. The date and place of the election meeting shall be announced at the first business meeting of the fiscal year.

Section 4: Vacancies: In the event that any elected office becomes vacant during its term because of the office-holder's inability or unwillingness to continue in the position, the Executive Board by majority vote shall designate a person to fill the unexpired term, except that the Vice President with the longest tenure shall become President. If neither Vice President has tenure longer than the other, the Boys' Vice President shall become President.

Section 5: Duties:

- A. **President:** The President shall be the chief executive officer of the organization, and shall be responsible for all management functions. He shall have executive authority to see that all orders and resolutions of the Executive Board are carried into effect and, subject to the control vested in the Executive Board by these Bylaws, shall administer and be responsible for the overall management of the business affairs of the Association. He shall preside over all meetings of the Association.
- B. **Vice-Presidents:** The Vice-Presidents shall assist the President in his duties. The Vice-Presidents shall be responsible for the training program of the Association, each within their area of responsibility. He shall be responsible for the schedule and content of the annual field mechanics clinic(s) and evaluation clinic(s), each within their area of responsibility. The Boys' Vice President shall serve as acting President in the absence of the President. The Girls' Vice President shall serve as acting President in the absence of both the President and Boys' Vice President. He shall be responsible for the ratings and rankings of the Membership, the evaluation system and related matters concerning the Membership each within their area of responsibility.
- C. **Secretary:** The Secretary shall be required to keep minutes of all meetings, the roster of Members and game schedule for the Association. He shall ensure that the Assignor is provided with up to date rosters and game schedules. The Secretary will maintain the membership records of the Association. The Secretary may receive compensation as recommended by the Executive Board with the approval of three-quarters of the vote at the last meeting of the year
- D. **Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall be responsible for all financial accounts, accounting and financial activities of the Association. He shall establish a budget and maintain

the checking account. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the billing of and collection from leagues, schools and districts of game fees, mileage charges and related items. The Treasurer shall be responsible for reconciliation of the schedule including the payment of the individual members in good standing with this Association. The Treasurer will render to the Executive Board periodically and when asked appropriate records, financial reports and reports on the condition of the Association. The Treasurer may receive compensation as recommended by the Executive Board with the approval of three-quarters of the vote at the last meeting of the year.

E. Checking Account: The Treasurer shall cause the funds of the Association to be placed and held in an account with an FDIC insured bank located in the State of Nevada. Two signatures of Executive Board members shall be required to withdraw funds from the account, only one of which can be the Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer.

F. Assistant Secretary or Treasurer: At the recommendation of the Secretary or Treasurer, the Executive Board may appoint an Assistant Secretary and/or Treasurer, who shall assist the Secretary or Treasurer as appropriate in the performance of his duties. The Executive Board may set the compensation for the Assistant Secretary and/or Treasurer at the time of his appointment. The Assistant Secretary and the Assistant Treasurer shall not be members of the Executive Board, but shall be responsive to requests from the Executive Board for information and action.

G. Members at Large: The Members at Large shall provide such services and be responsible for such activities of the Association as the Board shall direct. Such responsibility may but need not include being the liaison to other lacrosse organizations including the HSLL, TTLA, and related activities. Each Member at Large shall principally handle matters within their area of responsibility – boys or girls game.

Section 6: **Evaluator:** Upon the recommendation of the Executive Board, the President shall appoint and the Executive Board shall ratify one or more Evaluators. The Evaluator is not a member of the Executive Board. The Evaluator shall represent the Executive Board to the active members in all matters relating to evaluations, ratings, and shall resolve any dispute which a member may present relating to evaluation, or rating. The Evaluator shall present the matter to the Executive Board whose decision shall be final and unappealable. Whenever possible, the Evaluator shall be at least a Level 2 qualified official or a District Level qualified official.

Article IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. **Membership:** This Association shall be comprised of the following persons within the following classes of membership.

1. **Active:** Comprised of individuals who are duly qualified High School or youth level lacrosse officials who have complied with all the membership requirements of the Association, who are in good standing and who currently officiate High School or youth level lacrosse games.
2. **Trainee:** Comprised of individuals who are in their first year of lacrosse officiating

- or who have not been certified as a Level 1 official by or in accordance with the certification standards of US Lacrosse. Trainee members shall have all the rights, powers, obligations and responsibilities of Active members except that they shall be ineligible to vote on the election of officers or changes to the Bylaws or other organizational documents of the Association.
3. **Inactive:** Comprised of individuals who were formerly duly qualified High School or youth level lacrosse officials who were in good standing when they ceased to be Active members and who now no longer officiate High School or youth level lacrosse games in the Northern Nevada area.
 4. **Affiliate:** Comprised of individuals or business entities who are not Active or Inactive Members, but who have a special interest in the purposes of this Association and who have been approved for membership by the Executive Board of the Association.
 5. **Honorary:** Comprised of individuals upon whom this Association desires to confer such status according to standards to be established by this organization.

Section 2: **Qualified Membership:** This Association may accept individuals for membership pursuant to criteria to be established by this Association. Such applications for membership shall be accepted or rejected by a majority vote of the Executive Board, whose decision shall be final. All persons seeking membership shall also be actively registered as men's or women's officials with US Lacrosse and shall maintain such registration continuously during membership in the Association. The member shall submit proof of US Lacrosse registration prior to the beginning of each season.

Section 3: **Classification of Active Members.** The Executive Board may establish categories or rankings of Active Members according to a rating system established by the Executive Board and approved by the membership. Such rating system shall take into account the experience, examination score, knowledge, competence, professionalism, and related attributes of the member.

Section 4: **Resignation:** Any member may resign by filing a written resignation with the Secretary, which resignation shall be presented to the Executive Board by the Secretary at the first meeting after its receipt, but such resignation shall not relieve the member so resigning of the obligation to pay any dues, assessments or other charges previously accrued and unpaid prior to the receipt of such resignation. Additionally, such resigning member shall be responsible for all game assignments and other obligations owed to the Association until notified that the resignation has been accepted by the Executive Board.

Any member who does not pay dues and/or does not accept game assignments without authorization from the Executive Board shall be deemed to have resigned with eligibility to reapply for membership only under extraordinary circumstance.

A resigned member shall be eligible to apply for membership as a new member, subject to the approval of the Executive Board.

Section 5: **Reinstatements:** Upon written request signed by a former member and filed with

the Secretary, the Executive Board may, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board, reinstate such former member to membership upon such terms as the Executive Board may deem appropriate, provided that such former member meets all of the membership requirements of the Constitution and the Association and is not disqualified from membership.

Section 6: **Written Test:** Each official shall pass the prescribed annual written examination with a score of not less than seventy percent. All written exams shall be proctored or administered by secure electronic means. Annually, the Executive Board shall designate the prescribed examination, which shall test the individual's knowledge of current rules of High School Lacrosse as prescribed by the National Federation of High Schools Lacrosse rules committee or such other standard rules under which High School Lacrosse shall be played in the state of Nevada. Such examination may also be an examination offered by US Lacrosse and administered under its guidance and regulation.

Section 7: **Field clinics:** All Association members are required to attend the annual field mechanics clinic for the boys or girls game which they officiate. All Association members are required to annually attend all of the field mechanics clinic or the field evaluation clinic/scrimmage as appropriate for their membership year and boys or girls game officiated or such other field mechanics clinic and/ or scrimmage offered by another organization as approved by the Executive Board. The standard penalty for not attending the sessions required by this section shall be loss of game assignments for the first two weeks of the regular high school season and reduced consideration for post-season assignments. In the discretion of the Executive Board, a more or less severe penalty may be imposed based on the particular circumstances.

Section 8: **Transfers:** Officials from other High School associations will be accepted as members as allowed by the Executive Board, provided the transferring official must have completed a current examination and demonstrate proof of US Lacrosse current membership prior to being registered. They will be classified based on their test score and previous experience and other factors as determined by the Executive Board. Payment of dues, meeting attendance and other obligations of the transferring official will be established by the Executive Board.

Article V **MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

Section 1: **Meetings of Members:** The Association shall hold no less than five regular meetings during each fiscal year. Special meetings of the members may be called, from time to time, by a written request from any Executive Board member with a majority vote of the Executive Board. Such a request for a special meeting shall state the purpose or purposes of the proposed meeting.

Section 2: **Notice of Meeting of Members:** Written notice of the meetings of the members, starting time and place shall be mailed or electronically transmitted to each member at such address as appears on the books of the Association, no less than seven days before the meeting. Changes to meeting date, time or place may be made at any time provided reasonable notice of the change is delivered to each member.

Section 3: **Voting:** Each Active member shall have one vote. The presence of thirty percent of the active membership constitutes a quorum. A majority vote of those members present where a quorum is present is necessary to make a decision, except where some other number is required by law or by these Bylaws. Proxy voting or mail voting is permitted when authorized by the Executive Board in accordance with procedures established in the authorization and provided to the membership in advance of the opening of the voting session. At the discretion of the presiding officer, voting may be by show of hands or any other method.

Section 4: **Meeting Requirements:** Members are required to attend all the meetings, including clinics, in the fiscal year. Attendance may be excused by a request stating reasons for absence submitted in writing to the Secretary within five days of the missed meeting. The penalty for unexcused absences shall be in the discretion of the Executive Board after a consideration of the relevant circumstances and may include loss of game assignments and loss of consideration for post-season assignments.

Section 5: **Rules of Order:** All business meetings shall be governed by such other rules of order as are generally in accord with Robert's Rules of Order as determined by the presiding officer of the meeting.

Article VI **UNIFORM**

The official uniform shall be that prescribed by the National Federation governing High School Lacrosse, US Lacrosse or such other uniform as approved by the Executive Board, provided:

- a. Any uniform other than that prescribed by the NFHS or US Lacrosse shall be such as to maintain the professionalism and dignity of the position of game official; and
- b. Shall only be worn provided all members of the officiating crew are dressed uniformly; and
- c. Shall be readily available from common suppliers of officials uniforms; and
- d. The uniform for state tournament or play-offs shall be that prescribed by the NFHS, US Lacrosse, the NIAA or as approved by the executive board.

Article VII **DUES**

The Executive Board shall set the dues assessment to conduct the business of the Association. The business of the Association shall include obtaining insurance for the members, providing educational and training materials, payment of compensation for the services of the Secretary-Treasurer, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, if any, and Assignor and such other expenses as are related to the operation of the Association.

The Executive Board may establish different dues rates for each class of membership.

In order to ensure that sufficient funds are available to the Association, members may elect to have the following year's dues to be deducted from a pending game fee and mileage payment. Also, the Executive Board is authorized to impose a levy or surcharge on game fees, which amount shall accrue to the benefit of the Association and be used for authorized expenses of the Association.

Article VIII **DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS**

Section 1: Loss of Membership: The Executive Board may remove from the list of Active membership, any member who fails to comply with these Bylaws, or is found guilty of any of the following:

1. Is incompetent in their officiating skills;
2. Who is unfair or biased in their decisions;
3. Whose professional or ethical conduct on or off the field deems them unfit to act as a Lacrosse official;
4. Who fails to attend the required number of Association meetings;
5. Who has used intoxicating beverage twelve hours before a game in which they are to serve as an official;
6. Who has failed two written examinations per fiscal season;
7. Who has failed to pay their dues;
8. Who works a lacrosse game with non-NNLOA officials without the approval of the Executive Board;
9. Who is determined by the Executive Board to be deficient in person, ability, conduct or attitude as to be detriment to the Association or not be a proper representative of the Association; or
10. Who is disqualified from membership in accordance with the Constitution, when applicable.

Section 2: Notification of Charges: A charged member shall receive written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, or other means of communication with proof of delivery, of the charges against him, indicating the alleged violation with specific reference to the Bylaws provision, rule, or regulation he allegedly violated, the specific alleged violative conduct, where and when the alleged violative conduct occurred and the person or entity who filed the charge.

Section 3: Right of Hearing: A member charged with any violation shall have the right to be heard in person or by written statement made by him in his own defense before the Executive Board provided that the member shall submit a written request for a hearing not later than 5 days after receipt of the charges, which request for hearing shall state the defenses or reasons the charge or penalty is inaccurate or inappropriate. The decision of the Executive Board shall be final.

Article IX
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 1: **Fiscal Year:** The fiscal year of the Association shall commence on the 1st day of October and end on the 30th day of September in each calendar year.

Section 2: **Status of Members:** All members of the Association are independent contractors in their officiating capacities and not employees of the Association, or of any officer or assignor(s) of games of the Association, or of any other person or entity for whom the members work as officials and as such no deduction of any taxes will be taken out of any payment to them. All members of the Association recognize this status and understand that the Association, nor its officers or assignor(s) of games, are employers, and therefore, the members may not be able to collect worker's compensation from the Association or any other person or entity for injuries sustained while performing or traveling to and from officiating, assigning or officiating-related or assigning-related work. Each member should obtain and maintain disability insurance for injuries arising out of the member's work. A member may decide to accept or reject game assignments at the time of assignment

Section 3: **Contractual Relationship of Members:** Each member of the Association agrees by becoming a member that these Bylaws and all other rules, regulations and policies of the Association, including, during such times that the Association is sanctioned by the NIAA as a recognized high school officials association, the NSOA Constitution and the Agreement between Member Schools and the Officials Associations, shall be binding upon the member and the member shall abide by all such Bylaws, rules, regulations and policies

Section 4: **Amendment of Bylaws:** These Bylaws may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the active members in good standing present at any annual business meeting of the Association duly called and regularly held, notice of such proposed changes having been presented in writing to the active members at least thirty days before such meeting. During such times that the Association is sanctioned by the NIAA as a recognized high school officials association, an amendment of these Bylaws cannot be in conflict with the Constitution of the Nevada State Officials Association or the Agreement between the Member Schools and various NNOA Associations.

Section 5: **Pronouns:** The use of pronouns is for convenience and do not designate a gender. The use of the pronoun "he" or "his" shall also be deemed to mean "she" or "hers" as the context requires.

Proposed and adopted April 2015.