

BYLAWS BAYOU REGION VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I – BAYOU REGION DEFINED

The Bayou Region Volleyball Association shall consist of the territory within the state boundaries of Louisiana.

ARTICLE II – VISION AND PURPOSE

- 2.1 Vision. The vision of the Bayou Region Volleyball Association (hereafter referred to as the Corporation) is to be acknowledged as the statewide leader in the sport of volleyball.
- 2.2 Purpose. The purpose for which this Corporation is organized is to foster national and international volleyball competition. In furtherance of this main purpose, the following sub-purposes are set forth:
- 2.2.1 To teach the sport of volleyball to children and adults by holding clinics conducted by qualified instructors in schools, playgrounds and parks;
 - 2.2.2 To provide practice volleyball sessions, classroom lectures, seminars and panel discussions through which selected trainees may be schooled in competitive coaching, playing, officiating and scouting techniques;
 - 2.2.3 To foster and conduct area, state, regional and national amateur volleyball competitions;
 - 2.2.4 To act as the official representative of the United States Volleyball Association within the area designated as Bayou Region;
 - 2.2.5 To select and train suitable candidates in the techniques of volleyball in national and international competition and thereby improve the caliber of candidates representing the United States in Olympic, Pan American and World Game competitions;
 - 2.2.6 To foster and conduct amateur volleyball programs between the United States and foreign nations for the exchange and training of suitable candidates in the techniques and practices of volleyball in countries other than their own.

ARTICLE III – POWERS

This corporation shall have the powers as are necessary or convenient to enable it to carry out the purposes for which it is formed including the power:

- 3.1 To receive and hold money or other property, tangible or intangible, real or personal, for any of the purposes of the corporation, from whatever source derived.
- 3.2 To borrow money and to mortgage or pledge real or personal property as security therefore, to use, borrow or expend the funds and property of the corporation.
- 3.3 To conduct its affairs in Louisiana, and in any other state of the United States, in the District of Columbia, in the territories and possessions of the United States and in foreign countries. The corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, carry out any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law).

ARTICLE IV – OFFICES

- 4.1 The principal and corporate offices of the Corporation in the State of Louisiana shall be located in the city of Chalmette, of St. Bernard Parish.
- 4.2 The Corporation may have such other offices as the Board of Directors may designate or as the business of the Corporation may require from time to time.

ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP

- 5.1 The Board of Directors may from time to time establish one or more classes of membership and prescribe the qualifications thereof. The Board of Directors may also abolish or change the qualifications for any class of membership.
- 5.2 The Board of Directors shall also determine annual membership fees for any or all of the classes of membership established.
- 5.3 Membership in the Corporation does not warrant voting rights in the Corporation.

ARTICLE VI – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Membership on the Board of Directors shall be open to all persons who are interested in furthering the purposes of this Corporation as expressed in Article II of these Bylaws.

- 6.1 Composition and Authority. All corporate powers and affairs of this Corporation shall be governed by a Board of Directors, whose members are selected without prejudice. Each Director shall be entitled to one vote. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of volunteers who are current members of the organization in the following elected positions:
- 6.1.1. Commissioner, who is elected in the year prior to the quadrennial by majority vote of all registered adult members of the region and the existing sitting members of the Board of Directors for a four-year term.
 - 6.1.2 Associate Commissioner, who will be the previously serving commissioner or in the absence of one, appointed in accordance with Article 6.9.
 - 6.1.3 Male Player Representative, who is elected in odd years by the adult male player members of the Regional for a two-year term.
 - 6.1.4 Female Player Representative, who is elected in even years by the adult female player members of the Regional for a two-year term.
 - 6.1.5 Secretary, who is elected every two years in the same manner as the Commissioner.

- 6.1.6 Treasurer, who is elected in the same manner as the Commissioner, to serve a term concurrent with the Commissioner.
- 6.1.7 Directors of Junior Development, who are elected every two years by the by adult members of the Regional who are registered in either one or more of the following categories: Club Director, club administrator, coach (head, assistant, etc.) team representative, trainer and/or chaperone.
 - 6.1.7.1 Director of Junior Female Development
 - 6.1.7.2 Director Junior Male Development
- 6.1.8 At-Large, who is elected every three years in the same manner as the Commissioner.

The Board of Directors shall also include male and female volunteers in the following appointed positions. These appointments shall be made by the Commissioner and shall be subject to approval by a two-thirds majority vote of the existing Board. Appointed members shall serve for two years or until a successor is duly appointed.

- 6.1.9 Referee Chair
- 6.1.10 Scorekeeper Chair
- 6.1.11 Director of Coaching Development

6.2 Nominations. A Nominating Committee consisting of three members, chaired by the Associate Commissioner and two members of the Board of Directors whom the Associate Commissioner shall appoint, shall compile a slate of candidates for each elected office to be filled. Whenever possible, consent of the candidates to run should be gained before they are placed on a ballot. A list of those persons nominated for offices should be delivered to all eligible voters and members of the Board of Directors no less than fourteen days prior to the date on which an election shall be held. Nominations will be accepted from the floor, when elections are conducted during a legally held meeting.

6.3 Elections.

- 6.3.1 The Nominating Committee shall supervise and conduct all elections.
- 6.3.2 Elections shall be conducted by ballot.
- 6.3.3 Each currently registered adult BRVA member will have one vote in elections in which they are entitled to vote.
- 6.3.4 No voting member will have more than one vote in elections in which they are entitled to vote.
- 6.3.5 All Directors will take office on September 1 of the year elected.

6.4 Powers of the Board of Directors

- 6.4.1 General Statement. The Board of Directors, in furtherance of the specific and primary purposes of this nonprofit Corporation, as expressed in its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, may perform such acts as are necessary to exercise the powers of this nonprofit Corporation. Generally, it may do or perform, or cause to be done or performed, any act, which the Corporation lawfully may do or perform in the furtherance of its purposes as stated in its Articles of Incorporations and these Bylaws.
- 6.4.2 Policy Governing the Exercise of Powers by the Board of Directors. It shall be the policy of this corporation to budget and disburse each year sufficient funds to carry out its purposes as stated in its Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws. As this Corporation is not organized, nor shall it be operated, for pecuniary gain or profit and no part of the net earnings of this non-profit corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual, it also shall be the policy of this Corporation that this Corporation shall not:
 - 6.4.2.1 Lend any part of its income or principal without adequate security or at unreasonable rates of interest to donors, to members of the families of donors or to corporations controlled by donors or to members of donors' families;
 - 6.4.2.2 Make any part of this corporation's services available, on a preferential basis, to donors, or to members of donors' families, or to corporations controlled by donors or members of donors' families;
 - 6.4.2.3 Make any substantial purchase of securities or other property from donors, members of donors' families, or corporations controlled by donors or members of donors' families, for more than adequate consideration;
 - 6.4.2.4 Sell any substantial part of the property of this corporation to donors, members of donors' families, or corporations controlled by donors or members of donors' families for less than adequate consideration;
 - 6.4.2.5 Engage in any transaction which results in a substantial diversion of the income or corpus of this corporation to donors, members of donors' families, or corporations controlled by donors or members of donors' families for less than adequate consideration;
 - 6.4.2.6 Participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

6.5 Meetings of the Board of Directors

- 6.5.1 Regular Meetings. There shall be one regular meetings of the Board of Directors each year. The Annual Meeting shall be held sometime after August 1 and prior to the start of the upcoming season, at which time annual reports shall be received. Other business shall be transacted as may be properly brought before a legal special meeting.
- 6.5.2 Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the Commissioner, or by any five Directors, provided that at least fourteen days written notice is given.

6.6 Notice of Meetings of the Board of Directors.

- 6.6.1 Notice of any meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given by the Commissioner, or by the Secretary at the Commissioner's request, and shall specify the place where, and the date and hour when, the meeting will be held. Notices must be in writing and may be delivered either personally at least five days before the meeting, excluding the day of the meeting, or by first class mail, postage prepaid, placed in the mail at least seven days before the meeting, excluding the day of the meeting, to the address of record for the Director.

- 6.6.2 Any Director may make written waiver of notice before, at or after a meeting, and such a waiver shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice. The waiver shall be filed with the person who has been designated to act as Secretary of the meeting, who shall enter it into the records of the meeting. Appearance at a meeting is deemed a waiver unless it is solely for the purpose of asserting the illegality of the meeting.
- 6.7 Quorum. In order to transact business, there shall be a Quorum. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors. Directors may vote by written proxy ballot.
- 6.8 Removal of Directors. Any Director may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the present and voting Board of Directors at any special or annual meeting at which a quorum is present whenever, in its judgment, the best interests of the Corporation would be served thereby.
- 6.9 Filling Vacancies in the Board of Directors. A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise, may be filled by the Commissioner for the unexpired portion of the term. Such replacement shall be subject to approval by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- 6.10 Compensation of Directors. Directors shall serve without annual compensation.
 - 6.10.1 With the approval of two-thirds majority of the present and voting Board of Directors, A Director may be appointed to fill any vacant positions as outlined in BRVA Operating Code, Article IV – Professional Staff.
 - 6.10.2 A Director appointed and approved for a Professional Staff position as outlined in the Operating Code, Article IV – Professional Staff, is entitled to the compensation associated with said position.
 - 6.10.3 A Director appointed and approved for a Professional Staff position may not vote on any issue directly affecting said position, however may participate in discussions pertaining to and prior to the vote.
- 6.11 Indemnification of Directors. No person who now is, or who later becomes, a Director of this nonprofit Corporation shall be personally liable to its creditors for any indebtedness or liability, and any and all creditors of this nonprofit Corporation shall look only to the assets of this Corporation for payment.

ARTICLE VII – COMMITTEES

- 7.1 Standing Committees
 - 7.1.1 Executive Committee. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of this Corporation that shall consist of the elected Directors and be chaired by the Commissioner. The Executive Committee shall:
 - 7.1.1.1 Have the authority of the Board of Directors and act in its stead in the interval between meetings.
 - 7.1.1.2 Have and exercise such control over the affairs and business of the Corporation as may be directed to it from time to time by the Board of Directors, except such matters which, by these Bylaws or by the laws of the State of Louisiana, must be reserved to the Board of Directors or to the membership of the Corporation or both.
 - 7.1.1.3 Serve as the Ethics and Eligibility Committee of the Corporation.
 - 7.1.2 Budget and Finance Committee. There shall be a Budget and Finance Committee chaired by the Treasurer and consisting of two other members of the Board of Directors appointed by the Commissioner. The Committee shall:
 - 7.1.2.1 Oversee the preparation of an annual budget to be presented and approved prior to the beginning of the fiscal year of the Corporation.
 - 7.1.2.2 Present an annual report of the financial position of the Corporation at the Annual Meeting.
- 7.2 Other Committees
 - 7.2.1 The Board of Directors, or the Commissioner, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall have the authority to appoint other such committees as may be deemed appropriate.
 - 7.2.2 The Chair of such committees may be appointed or elected from its members as the Board of Directors or Commissioner may determine.

ARTICLE VIII – PROFESSIONAL STAFF

- The Board of Directors may create and hire one or more staff positions to carry out the powers of this Corporation.
- 8.1 A position of Registrar is created to register and maintain said records and files of all members within of the Bayou Regional Volleyball Association.
 - 8.1.1 The Board shall appoint a registrar with contracted terms approved by the Board.

ARTICLE IX – ASSETS

- 9.1 All drafts drawn against the Corporation's accounts shall be signed by the Commissioner or Treasurer, or by such other person or persons as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine.
- 9.2 Deeds, mortgages, leases and contracts may be signed by the Commissioner and Treasure, or by such other person or persons as the Board of Directors may authorize when necessary.
- 9.3 No loans shall be contracted on behalf of the corporation, and no evidence of indebtedness shall be issued in its name, unless authorized by a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors.
- 9.4 All funds of the Corporation, not otherwise employed, shall be deposited in the Corporation's accounts with such bank or banks or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select.

ARTICLE X – FISCAL YEAR

The Fiscal year of this corporation shall begin on September 1 and end on August 31.

ARTICLE XI – ANNUAL REPORT

Neither the Corporation nor the Board of Directors shall be required to send to members any annual or other report or statement of affairs of the Corporation. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to limit or restrict the right of a member to request any information regarding the affairs of this Corporation to which the member may be entitled under the laws of the State of Louisiana.

ARTICLE XII – OPERATING CODE

The Board of Directors is authorized to adopt an operating code by which the Corporation shall be governed with regard to more specific decisions and activities.

ARTICLE XIII – SEAL

A corporate seal is not required for this corporation.

ARTICLE XIV – RULES OF PROCEDURE

In all cases not otherwise provided for by these Bylaws, this Corporation shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Revised.

ARTICLE XV – AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended, altered or repealed and new Bylaws may be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the present and voting Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting, provided, however, notice of the proposed actions has been submitted to the Board of Directors in writing at least fourteen days prior to said meeting.

ARTICLE XVI – DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED

The Bayou Region Volleyball Association shall not, nor shall anyone acting on its behalf, discriminate against any person or group of persons on the basis of age, sex, race, creed, nationality, disability or sexual preference.

ARTICLE XVII – DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION

In event of dissolution, the residual assets of this organization will be turned over to one or more organizations, which themselves are exempt as organizations described in sections 501C(3) and 170(e)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code 1954 or corresponding sections of any prior or future Internal Revenue Code, to benefit USVBA for use in development of volleyball activity in the same geographic area of this USVBA Regional Volleyball Association.

OPERATING CODE

BAYOU REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

Preamble: The Operating Code describes policy statements of the Bayou Regional Volleyball Association (Corporation) and its substructures. An Administrative Manual, which delineates the specific functioning of each substructure, has been authorized by the Board of Directors. The Administrative Manual shall be subject to the review of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE I – VISION/PURPOSE

Refer to Bylaws, Article II, 2.1, 2.2.

ARTICLE II – AFFILIATIONS

Refer to Bylaws, Article II, 2.2.4

ARTICLE III – GOVERNANCE

- A. Board of Directors.
1. Authority. Refer to Bylaws, Article VI, 6.1.
 2. Accountability. The Board of Directors is the highest authority of the Corporation.
 3. Mission/Responsibility. Refer to Bylaws, Article II, 2.1, 2.2
 4. Other Policies
 - a. All members of the Board of Directors shall register annually with the Bayou Region Volleyball Association.
 - b. Vacancies on the Board of Directors, other than those created by an expired term of office, shall be filled as stated in the Bylaws, Article VI, 6.9.
 - c. The following criteria shall be applied in determining whether a Director shall be removed for non-attendance at Board meetings:
 - 1) Two consecutive unexcused absences from meetings without advance notification to the Commissioner or Secretary that he or she cannot attend, whether or not a new term of office as a director is being assumed.
 - 2) Three total absences during three consecutive years.
 - d. If an Education Based Member Organization or the Founding Member Organization desires to change its appointment of a Director, the Member Organizations shall notify the Secretary of the Corporation in writing for receipt at least twenty- four (24) hours in advance of the next meeting of the Board of Directors. A signed facsimile copy may be used, however the Member Organization shall forward an official letter of notification to the Secretary of the Corporation by first class or express mail no later than the same date as the facsimile copy was sent.
- B. Directors
1. Authority – refer to Bylaws, Article VI.
 2. Accountability. The officers shall be accountable to the Board of Directors, as specified in the Bylaws, Article VI, 6.1, and may be removed as specified in Bylaws, Article VI, 6.8.
 3. Responsibilities.
 - a. The Commissioner shall:
 - 1) Be the principal agent of the Corporation.
 - 2) Be the principal liaison between the Corporation and USA Volleyball.
 - 3) Act as the chairperson of the Board of Directors.
 - 4) Serve as chair of the Executive Committee.
 - 5) Ensure compliance with USA Volleyball ROD requirements.
 - 6) Approve all teams for USAV National Championships.
 - 7) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.
 - b. The Associate Commissioner shall:
 - 1) Assist the Commissioner with the functions of his/her office.
 - 2) Serve as the chair for the nominating committee.
 - 3) Serve as the chair for the Recognition and Awards Committee.
 - 4) Serve on the Executive Committee.
 - 5) Perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.
 - c. The Male Player Representative shall:
 - 1) Represent the interests of all male players in the region to the Board of Directors.
 - 2) Represent the interests of all male players in the region to the National Corporation.
 - 3) Perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.
 - d. The Female Player Representative shall:
 - 1) Represent the interests of all female players in the region to the Board of Directors.
 - 2) Represent the interests of all female players in the region to the National Corporation.
 - 3) Perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.
 - e. The Secretary shall:
 - 1) Keep the minutes of all proceedings of the meetings of the Board of Directors.
 - 2) Keep records of the names and addresses of the members of the Corporation.
 - 3) Carry on the correspondence of the Corporation, including the dissemination of information to members and to the public.
 - 4) Perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.
 - f. The Treasurer shall:
 - 1) Keep the accounting records of the Corporation.

- 2) At the request of the Board of Directors, prepare and submit to the Board of Directors statements of the financial condition of the Corporation.
 - 3) Review the budget to ensure compliance with the approval of expenditures and financial policy for consideration by the Board of Directors.
 - 4) Perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.
 - g. The Director of Junior Female Development shall:
 - 1) Represent the interests of junior female teams and players to the Board of Directors.
 - 2) Represent the interests of the region's junior female teams and players to the National Corporation.
 - 3) Create programs for the development of junior female players in the region.
 - 4) Assist in the formation of new junior female volleyball clubs in the region.
 - 5) Perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.
 - h. The Director of Junior Male Development shall:
 - 1) Represent the interests of junior male teams and players to the Board of Directors.
 - 2) Represent the interests of the region's junior male teams and players to the National Corporation.
 - 3) Create programs for the development of junior male players in the region.
 - 4) Assist in the formation of new junior male volleyball clubs in the region.
 - 5) Perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.
 - i. The At-Large Director shall:
 - 1) Oversee the production of the publications of the Corporation.
 - 2) Oversee the securing of Regional sponsors.
 - 3) Perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.
 - j. The Referee Chair shall:
 - 1) Develop and certify referees through clinics and rating programs.
 - 2) Develop and nominate candidates for national certifications.
 - 3) Coordinate the use of certified referees for sanctioned tournaments in the region.
 - 4) Perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.
 - k. The Scorekeeper Chair shall:
 - 1) Develop and certify scorekeepers through clinic and rating programs.
 - 2) Develop and nominate candidates for national certifications.
 - 3) Coordinate the use of certified scorekeepers for sanctioned tournaments in the region.
 - 4) Perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.
 - l. The Director of Coaching Development shall:
 - 1) Coordinate Impact and CAP clinics for the development of coaches within the region.
 - 2) Coordinate other clinics and programs for the development of coaches in the region.
 - 3) Perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.
- C. Executive Committee
1. Authority. Refer to Bylaws, Article VII, 7.1.1
 2. Accountability. The Executive Committee shall be accountable to the Board of Directors.
 3. Responsibilities.
 - a. Primary. Refer to Bylaws, Article VII, 7.1.1.
 - b. Other:
 - 1) Shall have general supervisory responsibility for financial development of the Corporation, including the investment portfolio.
 - 2) Shall supervise the awards and recognition programs of the Region.
 - 3) Perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.
- D. Committees and Commissions of the Board of Directors.
1. Authority. An elected or appointed Director, as authorized by the Bylaws, Article VII, shall supervise committees and/or Commissions established by the Board of Directors.
 2. Accountability.
 - a. All Committees and/or Commissions established by the Board of Directors shall report to the Board of Directors.
 - b. The Commissioner or other supervising Director, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint the Chair of each committee.
 - c. Chairs of Committees and Commissions may appoint members with the approval of the supervising Director.
 3. Committee and Commissions.
 - a. Nominating Committee.
 - 1) Authority. Refer to Bylaws, Article VI, 6.2.
 - 2) Accountability. The Nominating Committee shall be under the general supervision of the Assistant Commissioner.
 - 3) Responsibilities. Refer to Bylaws, Article VI, 6.2, 6.3.1.
 - b. Recognitions and Awards Committee.
 - 1) Authority. Refer to Bylaws, Article VII, 7.2.1.
 - 2) Accountability. This committee shall be under the general supervision of the Executive Committee.
 - 3) Responsibilities. This committee shall be responsible for identifying and recognizing contributions to the Regional by members or groups through annual or special awards. In addition, this committee shall be responsible for conducting any awards event.
 - c. Ethics and Eligibility Committee.
 - 1) Authority. Refer to Bylaws, Article VII, 7.1.1.3.
 - 2) Accountability. This committee shall be accountable to the Board of Directors.
 - 3) Responsibilities. This committee shall perform those responsibilities described in Article X of this Operating Code.
 - d. Finance and Budget Committee.
 - 1) Authority. Refer to Bylaws, Article VII, 7.1.2.

- 2) Accountability. This committee shall be accountable to the Executive Committee. The Treasures shall have supervisory responsibility for this committee.
- 3) Responsibilities.
 - a. Review monthly financial statements and reconcile them with the accounts of the corporation.
 - b. Review the annual budget of the Corporation on a quarterly basis.
 - c. Make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding disposition of the budget.
 - d. Review all extraordinary contracts and proposals for new programs and render a judgment as to their financial impact on the Corporation.
 - e. Annually review the performance of the investment portfolio.
4. If at all possible, Committees and Commissions should share their reports and recommendations with the Executive Committee prior to discussion by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV – PROFESSIONAL STAFF

- A. Authority. Refer to Bylaws, Article VIII.
- B. Accountability. Staff members shall be accountable to the Executive Committee and supervised by the Commissioner.
- C. Responsibilities. Shall perform such duties as assigned by the Commissioner and/or Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V – REGISTRATION CATEGORIES

- A. Authority. Refer to Bylaws, Article V.
- B. Definitions.
 1. Registration. Registration is the process of recording and filing with the Corporation the name of a team/individual registrant with required ancillary information and the receipt of requisite fee(s).
 2. Registered with USA Volleyball. Teams/individuals that are registered in any annual registration category shall be considered "registered" with the Region and with the National Corporation.
- C. Individual.
 1. Regular. Registration required of individuals participating in USAV sanctioned competition as players, coaches, officials and administrators.
 2. Junior Olympic Volleyball Player. Registration issued to a player who meets the qualifications of "Junior Olympic Volleyball player" as established annually by the Regional Operations Division (ROD) of USA Volleyball.
- D. Team. Each team participating in USAV sanctioned competition shall be considered registered with the Regional and the National Corporation by registering in one of the following categories:
 1. Regular. Registration required of teams composed either entirely of regular players or a composite of regular and Junior Olympic Volleyball players.
 2. Junior Olympic Volleyball. Registration required of teams composed entirely of Junior Olympic Volleyball Players.
- E. Other. The Board of Directors with the approval of USA Volleyball Vice-President, Regional Operations Division, may create additional categories of special registrations annually.

ARTICLE VI – FEES AND BENEFITS

- A. Authority. Refer to Bylaws, Article V, 5.2.
- B. Membership Fees. The Board of Directors shall establish annual membership fees for any and all categories of membership. The actual amount shall not be printed in the Operating Code but be published in the Regional Handbook or may be obtained from the Regional Office.
- C. Benefits. Membership entitles teams and individuals to benefits from the Region and the National Corporation. Membership benefits may change from time to time. Current benefits are listed in the Regional Handbook or may be obtained from the Region office.

ARTICLE VII – PLAYER AND TEAM ELIGIBILITY

These conditions and rules shall govern entrance to and competition in all Region events and programs.

- A. Authority. Refer to Bylaws, Article II, 2.2.3.
- B. Definitions.
 1. Players:
 - a. Eligible Player. A player who is eligible for USAV sanctioned competition pursuant to the current codes of eligibility of USAV.
 - b. Ineligible Player. A player ruled to be in violation of the current code of eligibility of USAV.
 - c. Junior Olympic Volleyball Player. A player who meets the age/grade requirements, as specified in the USAV Operating Code, Article X, E, 3,e.
 - d. Adult Player. A player who does not meet the definition of a junior Olympic Volleyball Player.
 2. Teams:
 - a. Classification. Team assignment by age groups or skill level, i.e. AA, A, BB, B. In junior age group competition, it may be single age only or a maximum age and under. In master and seniors competition, it shall be minimum age and older.
 - b. Division. A group of teams defined for tournament competition by gender of the participating players, i.e. female, male or coed.
 - c. Club. A combination of players and aggregate of two or more teams of one or more divisions, and one or more classifications, registered under the same club name, which may or may not have the same team name.
 - d. Team. A combination of players participating as a single playing unit restricted to one division and classification.
 - e. Club Team. A team affiliated with a club as defined in c. above.
- C. Eligibility Requirements for Competitions of the Corporation.

1. Registrations. All players, coaches, managers, team trainers, officials, teams, and others who are involved in a sanctioned competition shall be registered with a USAV Regional Volleyball Association or with the National Corporation.
 2. Participants Code of Conduct. All participants shall sign and abide by the Participants Code of Conduct.
 3. Substance Abuse Policy. All participants shall abide by the USAV Substance Abuse Policy.
- D. Teams Planning to Participate in USA Volleyball Championships.
1. Each adult team must inform the Regional Office in writing of their intention to participate in any USAV Indoor National Championship not later than February 1 of the current season.
 2. Each junior team must inform the Regional Office in writing of their intention to participate in any USAV Indoor National Championship not later than March 1 of the current season.
 3. Each outdoor or coed team must inform the Regional Office in writing of their intention to participate in any USAV National Championship not later than 30 days prior to the entry deadline for that event.
 4. Specific Eligibility Requirements for Teams Planning to Enter USA Volleyball Championships. All players and teams entering a USA Volleyball National Championship Event shall adhere to the eligibility requirements as stated in the USAV Operating Code, Article X, E.

ARTICLE VIII – REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS AND EVENTS

- A. Sanctioning Requirements and Procedures. Any organization desiring to conduct a sanctioned event within the Region shall seek sanction/approval from the Region Office a minimum of 30 days prior to the event. All tournaments and events (i.e. tryouts, clinics, exhibitions, etc.) must be sanctioned in writing by the Region Commissioner. Application for sanction may be requested from the Region Office. Requirements for sanctioned tournaments may be found in the Region Handbook under Guidelines for USAV Sanctioned Tournaments.
- B. Membership Requirements for Participation in Region Tournaments and Events. All participants in Region events must be registered members. Sanctioned competition protects a player's eligibility for participation in qualifying regional, national and international competition.
- C. Sanctioned Season. The sanctioned calendar season begins on 1 November and ends on 31 October.
 1. The indoor six-player "friendship" season shall begin on 1 November and end on the last day of January. Players are not restricted to a specific team or club, and uniform requirements shall be relaxed, during the friendship season.
 2. The indoor six-player "sanctioned" season shall begin on 1 February and end on 31 October.
 3. The outdoor and other sanctioned seasons shall run concurrent with the sanctioned calendar season.
- D. Rules of Play. The United States Rules Modified as published in the current United States Volleyball Rule Book shall govern competition.
- E. Tournament Guidelines. All sanctioned tournaments must be conducted in accordance with the Guidelines for USAV Sanctioned Tournaments.
- F. Protests.
 1. Protests at Tournaments. Protests arising with respect to rules interpretations or decisions of the match or tournament officials must be brought to the Protest Committee assigned by the Tournament Director and must be made in accordance with current USAV rules. Protests regarding eligibility or other issues at tournaments should be forwarded in writing to the Region Commissioner.
 2. Other Protests. Protests arising from any other source, or at any other event, should be forwarded in writing to the Region Commissioner.

ARTICLE IX – REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

- A. Host. Bids will be accepted to host Region Championship events until 1 September. The Executive Committee shall make a decision to grant any approval to host a Championship by 1 October.
- B. Date. The date of each Championship shall be established by the Board of Directors based on the following criteria:
 1. Deadline for entry to National Championships;
 2. Availability and suitability of appropriate facilities;
 3. Availability of non-compete weekends.
- C. Site. The location of each Championship will be determined by the Executive Committee based on the following criteria:
 1. Host organization;
 2. Availability and suitability of appropriate facilities;
- D. Administration.
 1. Event Director. The tournament host shall provide an Event Director responsible for all logistical aspects of the tournament.
 2. Competition Director. The Region Commissioner shall appoint a Competition Director who shall have authority over all areas of competition (i.e. format, seeding, schedules, etc.)
- E. Team Eligibility for Region Championships. To be eligible for Regional Championships, a team must have participated in a minimum of two USAV tournaments, at least one of which was within the Region.

ARTICLE X – DISCIPLINARY ACTION, ADJUDICATION AND APPEALS

The Bayou Region Volleyball Association adopts the Due Process, Penalties and Appeals Procedures of USA Volleyball as outlined in the USAV Bylaws, Article XI and which are published in the Region Handbook.

ARTICLE XI – OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

- A. Handbook. The Region Handbook shall be revised and printed at least every year and distributed to all regular members. The Region Handbook shall meet the requirements as set forth in the USAV ROD Administrative manual.
- B. Newsletter. A newsletter shall be published and posted on the regional website (www.BayouVolleyball.com) twice annually. The newsletter shall meet requirements as set forth in the USAV ROD Administrative Manual.

- C. Web site. The Region shall maintain an informational presence on the World Wide Web via a web site and/or other instruments.
- D. Other Publications. The Board of Directors may authorize other publications.

ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS

- A. Authority. Refer to Bylaws, Article XI and Article VI, 6.4.1.
- B. Procedure for Submission.
 - 1. Source. Additions, deletions or amendments to this Operating Code may be proposed by any entity of the Corporation, including but not limited to a member, a director, a staff member or any person from an officially recognized substructure.
 - 2. Submission. Proposals may be submitted to the Corporate Office or to any member of the Board of Directors.
- C. Action. The Board of Directors shall make additions, deletions or amendments to this Operating Code.

