



Southern Independent Conference Officials Alliance

SICOA By-Laws

This association shall be governed by seven members to be known as the Board of Directors. They will consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, "A" Group Representative, "B" Group Representative & The Supervisor of Officials.

ARTICLE I - PRESIDENT

Section 1. The President shall act as the Chief Executive of the Southern Independent Conference Officials Alliance - (SICOA). He/she shall preside at all SICOA meetings of the general membership and the Board of Directors. This individual will carry out all the other usual duties of this office and may suspend members temporarily when events warrant such action pending a Board of Directors review.

ARTICLE II - VICE PRESIDENT

Section 1. The Vice-President, in the absence or incapacity of the President, is vested with the powers and duties of the President. This individual shall perform all other duties as may from time to time be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III - SECRETARY

Section 1. The Secretary shall keep a chronological record of the entire general membership and Board of Directors meetings. The Secretary shall, from time to time, as directed by the President, submit the record of the previous meetings to the general membership for approval as the official minutes of this association. This individual shall prepare and distribute all notices as required by the President or the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV - TREASURER

Section 1. The Treasurer shall collect and have charge of all fees and dues. This individual shall place all monies of SICOA into one fund from which all expenses and disbursements shall be made as authorized by the Board. The Treasurer shall maintain an account of all SICOA funds in a bank approved by the Board. The Treasurer will co-sign all checks with the President.

ARTICLE V - "A" GROUP REPRESENTATIVE

Section 1. The "A" Group representative to the board shall be a member that has met the qualifications by classification to be placed in that group. The "A" Group representative shall chair and/or serve on committees as directed by the President and/or the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI - "B" GROUP REPRESENTATIVE



Section 1. The "B" Group representative to the board shall be a member that has met the qualifications by classification to be placed in that group. The "B" Group representative shall chair and/or serve on committees as directed by the President and/or Board of Directors.

Section 2. In the event the "B" Group representative is elevated to the "A" Group while serving in this position, he/she must relinquish their position and a new representative must be selected by the general membership by a majority vote.

ARTICLE VII - SUPERVISOR OF OFFICIALS

Section 1. The Supervisor of Officials shall be responsible for all bookings done by this association. He/she shall abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of SICOA when assigning officials. He shall represent the association at all meetings with leagues/associations that SICOA has current or pending contracts with. He shall report all violations of the By-Laws and/or Rules & Regulations to the Board of Directors for disposition.

ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors will consist of the elected officers of the association and will serve as the governing body of the Southern Independent Conference Officials Alliance, (SICOA).

Section 2. The Board will audit and thereafter accept, reject or order an inquiry the Treasurer's bi-annual financial report. The report shall be presented not later than the first day of June and the first day of December of each year.

Section 3. The board will appoint committees as needed and/or required as described by the FHSAA Officials Guidebook. The committees term will be determined by the Board of Directors, but may not exceed two year's without the Board's consent. The Board retains the right to dismiss any committee appointee when deemed appropriate.

Section 4. The Board will receive and review any grievance from the Grievance Committee.

Section 5. The Board, with recommendations from the Evaluation Committee, has the responsibility for establishing and exercising the guidelines for evaluation and annual approval of existing officials. A new official must be reviewed and approved by the Board before a classification may be awarded. Officials with no experience, new to football officiating, will automatically be classified as an "RT" prior to the start of their first year.

Section 6. The Board shall have the absolute authority to fine, suspend or expel from the association any member found in violation of the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules of Conduct or Code of Ethics as established and published by the Florida High School Activities Association, (FHSAA) and/or The National Federation of State High School Associations. All associations and leagues that SICOA has under contract at the time of any action, shall be notified in writing of any disciplinary actions or



recommendations.

Section 7. A member disciplined by the SICOA Board of Directors, has the right to appeal any imposed sanction to the general membership. Written notification of intent to appeal must be submitted to the secretary within fourteen, (14) day's of the Board's final action. The appeal will be presented at a regular or special general meeting called for this purpose. The President will present all facts and hearing findings to the general membership. A two thirds vote of the general membership shall be necessary to reverse a Board's action regarding a disciplined member. The Board will not seek further review if's action is reversed by the general membership vote.

Section 8. A disciplined member who does not obtain from the general membership a reversal of a Board imposed sanction, shall have the right to seek a review by the FHSAA Executive Secretary for a final adjudication.

ARTICLE V - GAME ASSIGNMENTS

Section 1 The Supervisor of Officials may not assign games to any official deemed not in good standing with the FHSAA and/or SICOA. Assignments shall not be altered or exchanged without prior consent of the Supervisor of Officials.

Section 2. The Supervisor of Officials will make assignments consistent with the members' classification. The Supervisor of Officials shall have the authority to assign members from lower classification only in circumstances when appropriate level officials are not available.

ARTICLE VI - CLASSIFICATIONS

Section 1. All members of SICOA will be classified by the classification system implemented and approved by the Board of Directors. Primary consideration is given to the minimum requirements set down by the FHSAA.

Section 2. The Evaluation Committee will evaluate officials transferring into SICOA from another FHSAA or out of state association before they will be classified and assigned.

ARTICLE VII - GAME FEES

Section 1. All game fees will be negotiated in all contracts consistent with the fees set by the FHSAA. Travel fee will also be negotiated in all contracts.

ARTICLE VIII - MEMBERSHIP & DUES

Section 1. Application for membership is open to any one, regardless of race, color, creed or ethnic background. No applicant will be denied membership once the application is submitted with application fee and approved by the Board. Applicants must be in good standing with the FHSAA and/or The National Federation of State High Schools Association.



Section 2. If any information on the members' application is found to be false, the Board may impose an immediate suspension until an inquiry is held. The Board may impose permanent expulsion if it is found that the false information was purposely submitted in an effort to deceive or hide pertinent information.

Section 3. Each member shall pay annual dues to SICOA for each sport that they plan to officiate. The annual dues amount shall be set by the Board of Directors in accordance with a budget submitted by the Treasurer.

Section 4. The membership year shall begin annually on July 1st and will end on June 30th.

Section 5. Those members who have not paid their dues within 30 day's of the first regularly scheduled meeting will be deemed "not in good standing" and will remain in that status until all dues are paid in full. SICOA dues will be consistent. Additional dues may be added by SICOA, (late fees) as stipulated on the registration application.

SECTION IX - GENERAL

Section 1. No member of SICOA shall participate in any football contest that is not assigned by the association without approval from the Supervisor of Officials. By FHSAA rule, officials may choose membership in two (2) associations. However, for insurance and liability purposes, officials must be certain that any contests that they work outside SICOA has been approved by local and state high school associations.

Section 2. All information requests from any member, committee or officer must be addressed promptly and properly. Extension of response must be in writing for consideration by the Board. Failure to comply with provisions of this section either through negligence or for any other reason shall be regarded as obstructing the best interest of this association. Such action may be grounds for the Board to find the member "not in good standing".

Section 3. Any member who retains or states that they are retaining legal council to challenge a decision by the Board of Directors before all other methods of appeal are exhausted, shall immediately be terminated from membership.

SECTION X - MEETINGS

Section 1. A quorum for a meeting will constitute one third (1/3) of the general membership of SICOA. The general membership may not vote on any issues or motions if a quorum is not present.

Section 2. Any member, in good standing, who misses two (2) consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, (unexcused) shall be listed as "in bad standing", and removed from the assignment roster immediately. In order to be re-instated, the member must submit a letter to the Board of Directors for consideration. Members seeking approval to be absent from meetings must submit a request in writing the association Vice-President.



Section 3. Robert's Rules of Order shall control all parliamentary questions in the conduct of all meetings, except wherein conflict with specific articles of these By-Laws.

Section 4. The President, or his designee, may remove any member from a meeting if it is deemed their behavior, conduct or demeanor is detrimental to the association and it's business.

SECTION XI - AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The By-Laws will be automatically amended to comply with any newly enacted requirements of the FHSAA.

Section 2. Amendments to the By-Laws shall be presented for reading at the third to last meeting of the season. It shall be read again with any additions or deletions at the next to last meeting of the season. It shall be voted on by call ballot at the final meeting of the season.
